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China Mail

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1845

No. 19,736

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1926.

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Modern Equipment,
Prompt and Careful Work
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Ralph A. Cooper, Manager,
Qualified Optician by
Canadian Government
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UNBEATEN AT THE PRICE
Contains 100 sheets ruled
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This pad contains 100 sheets of heavy glazed paper, ruled both sides. Complete with blotting paper.

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Good Quality Opaque Envelopes. Large 8vo Court Size to match the Mammoth Pad. Specially made for us.

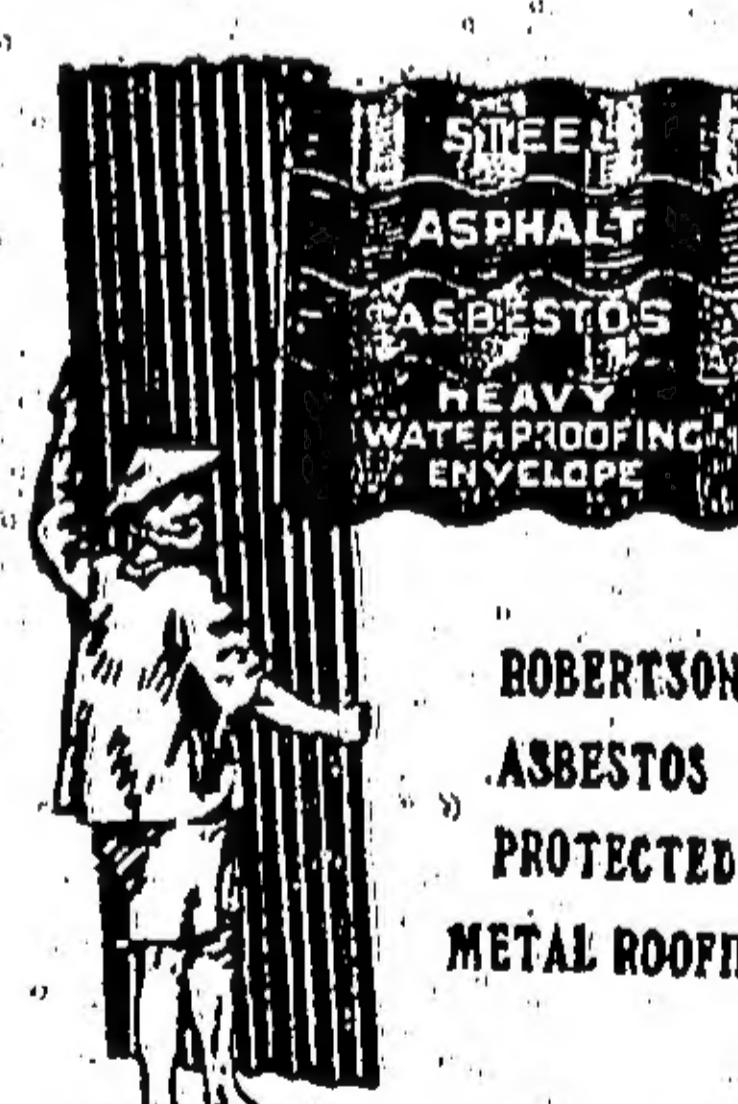
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Samples and particulars on application.

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Successor to
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TERMS VERY MODERATE
Consultation Free.

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ELECTRIC MASSAGE
31a, Wyndham St., 2nd Floor.

MORNING BLAZE.

AGED RESIDENT'S TRYING ORDEAL.

GOOD BRIGADE WORK.

A narrow escape from death was that of Mrs. M. Bevan, rooms in whose house at 1, Leighton Hill Road, opposite the Police Recreation Club, Happy Valley, were completely destroyed by fire this morning.

It is impossible to give the actual details of the cause of the outbreak as the old lady (she is thought to be 70 years of age) is so overcome by her experiences that it is impossible to verify them.

Mrs. Bevan's rooms are immediately above the workshop of the undertaking business of Brown, Jones and Company and the efforts of the fire brigade to restrict the blaze to the upper floors were successful, otherwise much greater damage would have resulted.

The Fire Brigade were quickly on the spot after the first alarm was given by a policeman on duty who noticed the flames.

Mrs. Bevan succeeded in getting to the foot of the stairs, but a refection set in when she was not out of danger and she had to be carried into a neighbour's house. Here she is receiving every attention.

Two back rooms, the kitchen and bathroom, were completely destroyed, and fears are entertained with regard to a certain amount of the belongings of Mrs. Bevan until a thorough investigation has been made; it is not possible to estimate the amount of loss. Some of the personal effects may have been saved, however, as Mrs. Bevan had partially packed up in preparation for the move she was to have made shortly to the home of a son in Hongkong.

Mrs. Bevan has resided for many years in Hongkong and is known to many. Sincere sympathy will be extended to her in her trying ordeal.

Mrs. Bevan had not long returned from Hospital.

The Fire Alarm.
The Central Fire Brigade received the call from No. 2 Police Station a few minutes after six o'clock and despatched two appliances, being supplemented by the Wan Chai and Kennedy Town equipments.

Owing to the flimsy nature of the partitions of the rooms adjoining the kitchen, where the fire is believed to have had its start and spread inwards assisted by wind blowing through the windows at the back of the kitchen, the rooms were well alight in a short space of time.

Effective results were obtained by concentrating on the flames with two deliveries working from opposite directions, one having been taken up by ladder from the rear and through one of the kitchen windows. The stop signal was given in less than one hour.

The Damage.

Two rooms and their contents immediately near the kitchen were completely destroyed. The other rooms in the front portion of the floor had their contents damaged by heat and water.

The first floor, used as a carpenter's workshop and a fodder store with their contents were damaged by water. This part of the building would have provided good fuel for the flames but for the prompt action in checking the outbreak.

Slight damage by water was also done to the monumental work in the basement. Both the basement and the first floor were occupied by Messrs. Brown, Jones and Company.

FRONTIER CLASH.

**LEAGUE INTERVENTION
REQUESTED.**

(Reuter's Service.)

Geneva, Feb. 26.

Lithuania has requested League intervention in the alleged Polish violation of the frontier, notwithstanding the Polish delegation's denial of the Lithuanian allegations and the official Warsaw telegram describing the incident as closed.

[A Warsaw report on February 28 stated: A Lithuanian desire to annex Poland on the eve of the League meeting at Geneva is advanced as the explanation of a frontier incident in which Lithuanian guards are alleged to have forcibly occupied a Polish forest. Shots were exchanged but without casualties. The Police have captured eight Lithuanians.]

TO-DAY'S DOLLAR.

The closing rate of the dollar on demand, to-day was 2/4 8/16.

CANTON CUSTOMS.

"LUNGSHAN" LEAVES THIS MORNING.

LATEST DETAILS.

This morning the s.s. "Lungshan" resumed her trips to Canton, rooms in whose house at 1, Leighton Hill Road, opposite the Police Recreation Club, Happy Valley, were completely destroyed by fire this morning.

It is impossible to give the actual details of the cause of the outbreak as the old lady (she is thought to be 70 years of age) is so overcome by her experiences that it is impossible to verify them.

As previously indicated in the "China Mail," the settlement includes an undertaking by the Canton Government that the Customs' functions will not be interrupted.

Mr. Luk King-fo (who took a

large part in the settlement of the 1922 seamen's strike) was busy in the negotiations with Mr. F. Hayley Bell, the Commissioner.

Instructions have been issued by the Canton authorities that the Customs must be recognised by all as the first quarter to deal with imports and as the organisation to have the last say on exports.

In the absence of reports to the contrary, it can safely be presumed that the settlement fixed for yesterday—as reported—was carried through without a hitch.

PETROL DEARER.

ADVANCE IN WORLD MARKET PRICE.

SOVIET COMPETITION.

(Reuter's Service.)

London, Feb. 26.

An increase of a penny per gallon in petrol, costing users about £1,800,000, is attributed to an advance in the world market price in America.

Meantime, the probability that Russia will become a competitor in the supply of petrol is expected. An ocean storage depot at Avonmouth, for Russian oil from the ports in the Black Sea, will be ready in August. This venture is criticised by a London Oil Company official, who says: "The Soviet Oil Trust is undercutting other oil companies because it does not need to pay taxes, royalties, or rents."

The leading petrol distributors say that the price of petrol has advanced because the crude and refined products in the producing countries and tank steamer freights have increased.

TIPS FOR THE RACES.

PROPOSED NATIONAL STUDIO AT BRIGHTON.

CAPITAL NO OBSTACLE.

(British Wireless Service.)

Rugby, Feb. 26.

It is generally accepted that the Board of Trade's favourable to a project for a central national film studio at Brighton. There is no difficulty, it is understood, about the capital required, which is £200,000. It is proposed that part of this should be guaranteed under the Trade Facilities Act.

Mr. Beddington Behrens, who is the moving spirit, expects that the studio will be ready this summer. The Corporation of Brighton is co-operating in a liberal spirit.

It is hoped to build up British technique and film tradition equal to anything in the world.

FRENCH CUSTOMS.

INCREASE IN MINIMUM TARIFF.

(Reuter's Service.)

Geneva, Feb. 26.

The Chamber of Commerce has approved of the Government proposal, temporarily increasing the Customs duties on the minimum tariff by 30 per cent, with the object of counter-acting the effect of depreciated currency and protecting French producers.

FRONTIER CLASH.

LEAGUE INTERVENTION REQUESTED.

(Reuter's Service.)

Geneva, Feb. 26.

Lithuania has requested League intervention in the alleged Polish

HOTEL FIRE.

WILL AN INQUIRY BE HELD?

HOW THINGS STAND.

On the best authority the "China Mail" learns that an inquiry will be held into the circumstances attending the fire at the Hongkong Hotel on New Year's Day.

In the case of death, or a conflagration, a Magistrate (or coroner) is empowered to order an inquiry. At present it is understood that no magisterial proceedings will be held, but that an inquiry by the executive will be held.

The Colonial Secretary, in reply to a "Mail" reporter, stated that no information could be given out at the moment but would not say whether the "executive" would act or not.

Instructions have been issued by the Canton authorities that the Customs must be recognised by all as the first quarter to deal with imports and as the organisation to have the last say on exports.

In the absence of reports to the contrary, it can safely be presumed that the settlement fixed for yesterday—as reported—was carried through without a hitch.

LOCARNO SEED.

WON'T BE CRUSHED BY FRENCH FOOT.

MOTHERS NOW HAPPY.

(Reuter's Service.)

Paris, Feb. 26.

Cheers from almost every bench in the Chamber greeted a peroration and impassioned speech by M. Briand, the Premier, in appealing for the ratification of the Locarno Treaty. He expressed confidence that the peace effort would be successful in all countries. The little Locarno seed was already beginning to germinate. If it was to be crushed he hoped that it would not be by the French foot. Mothers could look on their children with the hope that they would not be victims of war. Locarno would have effected much if it achieved only that France and Germany had both proved their heroism and both had established magnificent centres of production. Was that all to be given over to fire and sword every 25 years?

His thunderous "No" elicited cheers from the entire House, which then adjourned.

LOCK-OUT NOTICES TO BE
POSTED.

(Reuter's Service.)

London, Feb. 26.

The death has occurred of Captain Edward Winthrop, formerly stationed in Hongkong.

Capt. Winthrop was attached to the China Squadron and was stationed here some time in 1914, when he retired and proceeded H. Me.

BOMBAY SCANDAL.

DEMAND FOR INDEPENDENT INQUIRY.

(Reuter's Service.)

London, Feb. 26.

The Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation has decided to post lock-out notices on March 5, to be operative on March 13, in all federated establishments in consequence of a strike by a section of London engineers and labourers over wages and a refusal to work with non-Unionists.

The Engineering Union refuses to recognise the strikers' action.

LOCAL WEDDING.

Photo by Ying Ming.

Miss May Meadows (formerly of the Helena May Institute) and Mr. J. Norris Owen (of Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd.), who were married at St. John's Cathedral last Monday.

DANISH FLIGHT.

FROM COPENHAGEN TO TOKYO.

(Reuter's Service.)

Paris, Feb. 26.

The Chamber of Commerce has approved of the Government proposal, temporarily increasing the Customs duties on the minimum tariff by 30 per cent, with the object of counter-acting the effect of depreciated currency and protecting French producers.

FRENCH WARS.

CREDITS FOR OPERATIONS REDUCED.

(Reuter's Service.)

Copenhagen, Feb. 26.

In spite of M. Palmé's opposition the Chamber, by 244 votes to 243, adopted a Socialist amendment reducing the credits for Syria and Morocco by a million francs with a view to terminating the operations there as soon as possible.

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LLOYD TRIESTINO

REGULAR MONTHLY PASSENGER AND FREIGHT SERVICE
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SEA AND DANUBE PORTS.

REDUCED PASSAGE RATES TO BRINDISI, VENICE
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£66.

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S.S. "ROSANDRA" ... Sails 7th April
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HOMEWARDS FOR BRINDISI, VENICE AND TRIESTE

From Hongkong

S.S. "VENEZIA" ... Sails 29th March
S.S. "ROSANDRA" ... Sails 3rd May
S.S. "FIUME-L" ... Sails 31st May

NATAL LINE OF STEAMERS

FROM CALCUTTA & COLOMBO TO
SOUTH AFRICAN PORTSS.S. "UMSINGA" ... Sails from Calcutta 31st March
S.S. "UMSINGA" ... Sails from Colombo 12th AprilRegular Passenger and Cargo Service to South African Ports
Through Bills of Lading issued from Hongkong.For Freight or Passage on any of the above Lines apply to:
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SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

LUNDEN, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERPEN - Via Singapore, Colombo, Basra and Port Said.
ALPS MARU ... Tuesday, 16th March
SIO DE JAHNHO, SANTOS, BUENOS AIRES - Via Balao, Singapore, Colombo, Durban & Capetown
HAWAII MARU ... Thursday, 8th April
SOMAY - Via Singapore and Colombo ... Wednesday, 14th April
SANOKH - Middle of March
KOHO MARU ... Middle of March
CALCUTTA - Via Singapore and Bangkok
VICTORIA, MANILA, COLOMBO, SINGAPORE - Via Basra and Japan Ports
ARIZONA MARU (From Shanghai) ... Monday, 1st March
IMYUZIE - Via Japan ports, San Francisco and Panama
ARGUN MARU (From Shanghai) ... Saturday, 27th March
LUNDEN & BOHOWA TAKERU AMAKUSA MARU ... Thursday, 4th March at 10 a.m.
JAPAN PORTS ... Tuesday, 16th March
AMUR MARU ... Tuesday, 16th March
TATEWA MARU ... Wednesday, 3rd March
YAMAO via SWATOW & AMYU ...

KOTODU MARU ... Thursday, 11th Mar., at 8 a.m.
TAKEO and KOTOLODAIKEN via CHEFOO and TSINGTAO
GINZAN MARU ... Beginning of March
For further particulars please apply to: OSAKA SHOGUN KAISHA
Tel. Central 4038, 4039, 4040.

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S.S. "EPHAN ALLEN" will sail 28th February

for
IBOSTON, NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE

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BOSTON, NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE

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will be loading for Marseilles, Valencia, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Copenhagen and other Scandinavian Ports on or about 26th March.

Further sailings - Expected on Will leave homeward bound or about or about

M.S. "ASIA" 15th March

M.S. "JAVA" 30th April

Subject to change without notice.

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SALISBURY

Mar. 14 - O.S.K. Kotan Maru

SWATOR

Feb. 26 - O.S.K. Hozan Maru

Hatching

Mar. 3 - O.S.K. Taikwa Maru

Kotan Maru

14 - O.S.K. AMY

Feb. 28 - O.S.K. Hozan Maru

Hatching

Mar. 3 - O.N. Kanchow

Teiwa Maru

14 - N.Y.K. Yingchow

Taikwa Maru

11 - O.S.K. Jolochu

Hozen Maru

18 - O.S.K. Tidiboot

Feb. 28 - O.S.K. Hatching

SHANGHAI

Feb. 28 - O.N. Kanchow

Teiwa Maru

14 - N.Y.K. Tottori Maru

Tambu Maru

16 - N.Y.K. Yamagata Maru

Taikwa Maru

Mar. 3 - O.N. Yingchow

Taikwa Maru

14 - O.C.S.N. Tidiboot

Shantung

17 - O.N. Shantung

Hakuen Maru

14 - N.Y.K. Taiyo Maru

Tidiboot

10 - J.C.J.L. Kwantang

Tidiboot

17 - A.O.L. Pres. Grant

Empress of Canada

20 - P.A.O. Delta

Oldenburg

22 - T.K.K. Tenyo Maru

Pres. Madison

20 - A.O.L. Empress of Russia

Kore Maru

Rosadra

17 - L.T. Empress of Africa

Legasti

20 - T.K.K. Shitonyo Maru

Siberia Maru

20 - B.P. Tidiboot

July 13 - T.K.K. Tidiboot

KREMLING

Kebab

18 - O.S.K. Hozan Maru

Taikwa Maru

20 - O.S.K. Tidiboot

TIENTUNG

Mar. 3 - O.S.K. Chongching

Luchow

20 - O.S.K. Tidiboot

CHIHAWEI

Mar. 5 - O.N. Luchow

CHEFOO

Mar. 3 - O.S.N. Cheongking

Luchow

20 - O.S.N. Tidiboot

TSINGTAU

Mar. 6 - O.N. Tidiboot

PAKHOU

Mar. 4 - O.S.K. Amakusa Maru

Taikwa Maru

13 - O.S.K. Tidiboot

HAINHONG

Mar. 18 - O.S.K. Taikwa Maru

BANGKOK

Mar. 2 - O.N. Chinbuu

Klungku

5 - O.N. Van Overstraten

Alpa Maru

16 - O.S.K. Lecapri

May 14 - B.B. Isla de Panay

C. Lopez Y Lopez

JAN. 20 - B.B. Manila

Mar. 3 - E.A. Tandu

West Niger

17 - N.L. Fields

7 - U.S.S.E. West Nomontum

18 - O.Q.L. Pres. Grant

Empress of Canada

19 - C.P.S. Pawlet

18 - S. Line Pres. Monroe

21 - A.O.L. Pres. Madison

23 - B.B. Isla de Panay

24 - C.L. Laconia

25 - N.Y.K. Tango Maru

26 - B.S. Tidiboot

27 - P.O.S. Taiping

Apr. 1 - A.O.L. Pres. Harrison

Pres. Jackson

13 - S. Line Pres. Van Buren

14 - N.Y.K. AKI Maru

St. Albans

14 - B.B. Legasti

Tandu

5 - L.T. Lopez Y Lopez

7 - E.A. Astura

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6 - N.L. Geoa Maru

10 - P. & O. Kidderpore

12 - B.B. Isla de Panay

13 - C.L. Lacoona

14 - B.B. Legasti

15 - B.B. C. Lopez Y Lopez

17 - C.L. C. Lopez Y Lopez

18 - B.B. Tidiboot

20 - E.A. Tandu

21 - N.Y.K. Tandu

24 - B.B. T

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S. S.	FROM HONGKONG	TO (ABOUT)	DESTINATION
"NAPOLEON"	5,883	4th Mar. Noon	Singapore, Penang, Colbo & Bombay
"MANTUA"	10,900	6th Mar. Noon	Marseilles and London
"KASHMIR"	8,885	13th Mar.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
"EDDOPORI"	6,332	18th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KIRNA"	9,195	20th Mar.	Marseilles, London, Antwerp & Hull
"MORIA"	10,910	2nd April	Marseilles and London
"DELTIA"	8,087	15th April	Singapore, Penang, Colbo & Bombay
"DEVANHA"	8,155	17th April	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
"KALYAN"	9,144	21st April	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
"MACEDONIA"	10,089	1st May	Marseilles & London
"KASHIGAR"	8,000	10th May	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
"MALWA"	10,941	29th May	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
"HEYBER"	9,114	10th June	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
"MANTUA"	10,902	26th June	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
"DELTA"	8,087	7th July	Singapore, Penang, Colbo & Bombay
"KARMA LA"	8,128	10th July	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
"RANIPURA"	10,855	24th July	Marseilles and London

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BRITISH INDIA-APOAR SAILINGS

S. S.	FROM HONGKONG	TO (ABOUT)	DESTINATION
"TALAMBAA"	8,018	4th Mar. at 1 p.m.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
"TALMA"	10,000	10th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
"SHIRALA"	7,811	17th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
"TARADA"	8,149	29th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
"NAGINA"	8,081	12th April	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

S. S.	FROM HONGKONG	TO (ABOUT)	DESTINATION
"TANDA"	6,958	3rd Mar. at 4 p.m.	Manila, Kalmongan, Sandakan, Thursday Island, Townsville, Bris- bane, Sydney and Melbourne
"ARAFURA"	8,000	10th Mar.	"do"
"ST. ALBANS"	4,500	6th May	"do"
"TANJA"	8,155	2nd June	"do"
"ARAFURA"	8,087	7th July	"do"

*Calls at Samarai.

The E. & A. S.S. Co., Ltd. steamer will also call at Singap, Meli, Cebi, Kalambangan, Tawu, Timor, Darwin, or other portage route as indument offers.

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The New Zealand Shipping Company's steamers for Southampton and London via Panama Canal.

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

S. S.	FROM HONGKONG	TO (ABOUT)	DESTINATION
"MOREA"	10,911	6th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe
"TAKADA"	8,119	9th Mar.	Moji & Kobe
"ARAFURA"	6,000	13th Mar.	Moji, Kobe and Yokohama
"KALYAN"	9,144	13th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"DEVANHA"	9,155	20th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"DELTIA"	8,087	20th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"NAGINA"	6,651	24th Mar.	Kobe
"MACEDONIA"	10,089	2nd April	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"TANJA"	4,603	10th April	Moji, Kobe and Yokohama
"ARAFURA"	9,005	12th April	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KALYAN"	9,114	20th April	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"DEVANHA"	8,087	26th April	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"DELTIA"	8,087	26th April	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"NAGINA"	6,651	24th May	Kobe
"MACEDONIA"	10,089	2nd May	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"TANJA"	4,603	10th May	Moji, Kobe and Yokohama
"ARAFURA"	9,005	12th May	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KALYAN"	9,114	20th May	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"DEVANHA"	8,087	26th May	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"DELTIA"	8,087	26th May	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"NAGINA"	6,651	24th June	Kobe
"MACEDONIA"	10,089	2nd June	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"TANJA"	4,603	10th June	Moji, Kobe and Yokohama
"ARAFURA"	9,005	12th June	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KALYAN"	9,114	20th June	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"DEVANHA"	8,087	26th June	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"DELTIA"	8,087	26th June	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"NAGINA"	6,651	24th July	Kobe
"MACEDONIA"	10,089	2nd July	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"TANJA"	4,603	10th July	Moji, Kobe and Yokohama
"ARAFURA"	9,005	12th July	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe
"KALYAN"	9,114	20th July	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.

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S.S. "Legazpi".....14th May.

S.S. "C. Lopez Y. Lopez".....5th July.

FOR YOKOHAMA, KOBE, MOJI & SHANGHAI.

S.S. "Isla de Panay".....8th March.

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NOTICE TO SHIPPERS
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VESSELS DUE

FROM AMY

MAR. 8-J.C.J.L. Titaropan
18-J.C.J.L. Tibodas

FROM NORTH CHINA

Feb. 28-J.C.J.L. Thibondari

Feb. 28-J.C.J.L. Tibondari

Mar. 1-T.E.X. Shinkang

4-J.C.J.L. Talyo-Maru
6-J.O. & O. Mantua

18-A.C.L. Pres. Grant

FROM SINGAPORE

Feb. 28-B. P. Calches

3-B. P. Ajax

3-B. P. Rapodan

6-B. P. Macabao

12-B. P. Bluebell

18-B. P. Diomedes

25-B. P. Menelaus

30-B. P. Astraea

FROM MANILA

Mar. 3-C.P.S. Empress of Asia

4-A.C.L. Pres. Jefferson

11-S. Line Pres. Wilson

11-E. & A. Afraria

15-O.P.S. Express of Canada

25-O.P.S. Pres. Lincoln

30-O.P.S. Empress of Russia

FROM CALCUTTA

Feb. 28-B. P. Shikra

FROM JAYA

Mar. 3-J.C.J.L. Tibobondari

7-V.O.J.L. Tisakik

FROM JAPAN

Mar. 1-T.E.X. Talyo-Maru

1-L.B.I. Tanda

4-S. Line Pres. Wilson

8-J.C.J.L. Titaropan

18-A.C.L. Pres. Grant

FROM SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE

Mar. 3-N.Y.K. Iyo Maru

11-E. & A. Afraria

17-B. S. Taiping

21-N.Y.K. Tango Maru

27-B. S. Changie

Apr. 9-E. & A. St. Albans

21-N.Y.K. Ati Maru

May 7-E. & A. Tanda

19-B. S. Afraria

21-E. & S. Changie

FROM VANCOUVER

Mar. 3-N.Y.K. Iyo Maru

4-B. P. Protecol

4-S. Line Pres. Wilson

14-A.C.L. Pres. Grant

20-A.C.L. Pres. Madison

26-B. P. Ixion

27-B. P. Jackson

May 27-B. P. Philoctetes

June 10-B. P. Typhon

20-B. P. Pythias

30-B. P. Thetis

FROM NEW YORK

(VIA PANAMA)

Mar. 4-N.Y.K. Hakodate Maru

FROM SAN FRANCISCO

Mar. 1-T.E.X. Taiyo Maru

4-S. Line Pres. Wilson

18-S. Line Pres. Lincoln

29-S. Line Pres. Harrison

Apr. 1-S. Line Pres. Cleveland

FROM LONDON

Mar. 4-G. L. Glengarry

5-P. & O. More

18-F. & O. Kalyan

28-G. L. Devanha

35-G. L. Glenapp

Apr. 15-G. L. Cambereshire

FROM LIVERPOOL

Mar. 6-B. P. Sarpedon

30-B. P. Patroclus

FROM EUROPEAN PORTS

Mar. 9-J.C.J.L. Oostkirk

12-N.Y.K. Suwa Maru

28-N.Y.K. Fusihim Maru

Apr. 6-J.C.J.L. Oudekerk

May 4-J.C.J.L. Alderacean

FROM MARSAILLES

Mar. 2-M. M. Andre Lebon

17-M. M. Paul Leclat

31-M. M. Ambres

Apr. 12-M. M. Angers

27-M. M. Amazone

FROM HAMBURG

Mar. 27-N. L. Trier

34-N. L. Saarbruecken

May 12-N. L. Coblenz

July 15-N. L. Anhalt

Aug. 12-N. L. Fulda

Sept. 11-N. L. Derriflager

FROM COPENHAGEN

Mar. 18-E. A. Asia

Apr. 20-E. A. Java

CHINA STATION.

GOOD SIGNALLING BY OUR
WARSHIPS.

SHIPS' OFFICERS.

QUESTION OF SALARIES
DISCUSSED.

The N.C. Daily News says:-

Confirming rumours which has been persistent for some days,

news has reached Shanghai from a private and unofficial, though

unimpeachable reliable source in

Hongkong, that there is now a

distinct probability that on March

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CELEBRATED
DRY GINGER ALE**

Its unique "dryness," delightful aroma and rich flavour are features which give this beverage the IMMENSE POPULARITY it deserves.

It has been repeatedly declared by travellers, tourists and others, that WATSON'S DRY GINGER ALE is UNQUELLED by any similar product throughout the World.

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GOOD TASTE



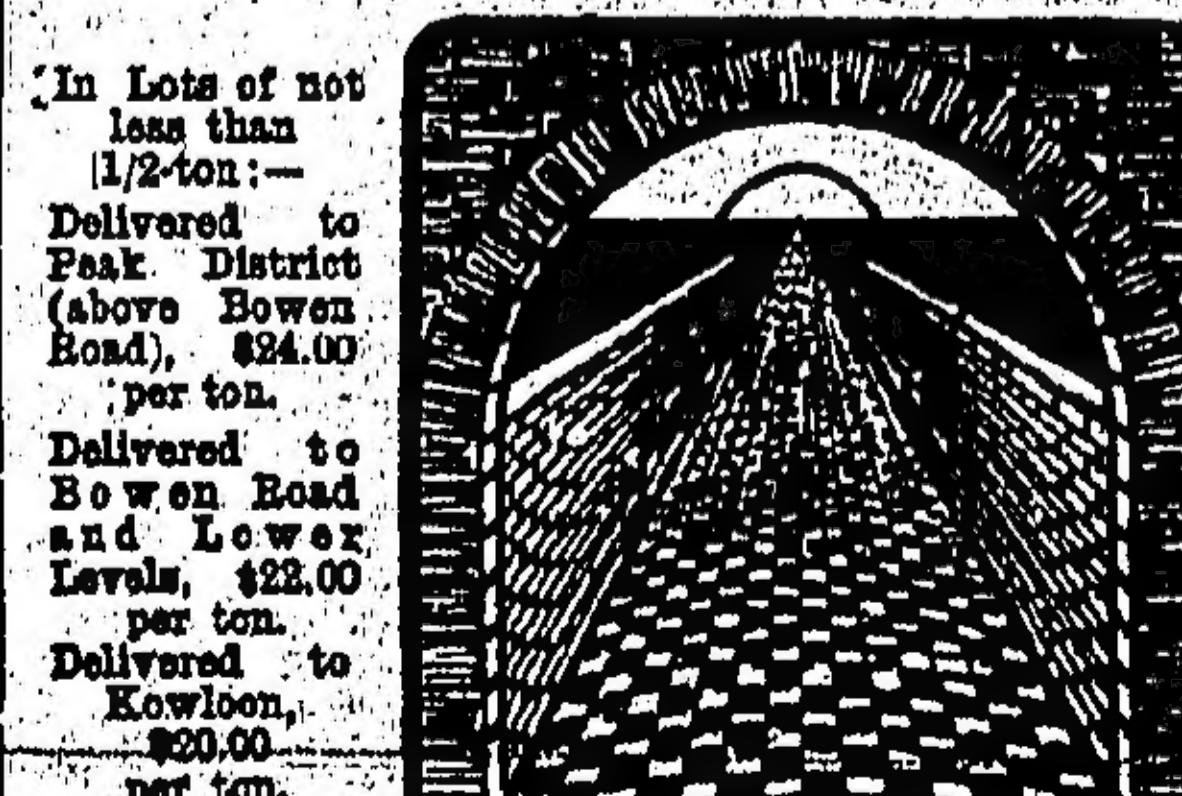
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are made by expert craftsmen.
It shows just that essential
daintiness so vital in shoes of
refinement.



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Delivered to Bowen Road and Lower Levels, \$22.00 per ton.
Delivered to Kowloon, \$20.00 per ton.

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VICTROLA**

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Hongkong, Saturday, Feb. 27, 1926.

A SATURDAY CAUSERIE.

Amongst the events of the week ending to-day two stand out as of paramount importance locally—the Canton Customs imbroglio and the annual meeting to-day of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation. The pros and cons of the Canton Customs incident have been fully thrashed out since the announcement last Monday of the Commission of Customs in Canton not to issue further permits for the loading and unloading of cargo until such time as the armed boycott pickets had returned cargo seized in contravention of the Customs regulations. The dispute could only have one possible ending. The authority of the Chinese Maritime Customs has been upheld, and guarantee given by the Canton Government, against future interference with the functioning of the Customs by the boycott pickets. Incidentally, it is worthy of note that when it was really up against a trial of strength the Canton Government asserted itself at long last and put the boycott pickets in their place. What has been done in regard to the Customs incident can likewise be done respecting the ending of the strike and the boycott if the Canton Government would only evince the slightest desire to govern the pickets instead of being governed by them.

By the business community of the Colony the annual meeting of "the Bank" holds a place second to none in its degree of importance. With the prosperity of the Bank is interwoven the prosperity of the whole of the Far East. The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation is the barometer of trade and commerce; the Chairman's review of the past and present position is always an able exposition, eagerly awaited and eagerly read by shareholders and non-shareholders not only in Hongkong but in every centre of British trade in the Orient. At the moment of writing

we have not naturally the Chairman's speech before us, but that will appear as a supplement to our second edition this afternoon.

Affecting a large section of the community a resolution was carried in the Legislative Council yesterday by which relief in the shape of rebates of rates will be granted to owners of tenement houses that have been partly or wholly vacant. This is not the kind of legislation that can be termed "hasty." A request for such relief was made several months ago, but the Government has waited, before acting until it was satisfied that a prima facie case had been made out by those owners on whom the recent overbuilding of tenements and the exodus of Chinese from the Colony pressed hardly.

In Empire matters interest is attached to the Air Estimates submitted in the House of Commons by the Minister for Air, Sir Samuel Hoare. With pardonable pride he pointed to the British Air Force as the most efficient in the world, and he looked forward to making the British a "people of the air." Equally vital was his reference to the development of the Empire's airways and to the finding of markets abroad for British aircraft machinery.

Once again the subject of the Council of the League of Nations has been kept well to the fore. China is the latest spoken of as demanding a seat on the Council should any extensions be made additional to the admission of Germany. Sir Austen Chamberlain, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, appears to have drawn a hornet's nest over him by a striking speech at Birmingham in which he enunciated the theory that even though Germany were elected on the Council, there is absolutely nothing against the Council being still further enlarged by the admission of other Powers. This is no new contention, for it was adumbrated upon in a British wireless service message a few weeks ago—at a moment, too, when many considered that British policy would be found to be opposed to any extension of the Council's membership at present beyond Germany.

CONSIDERATION.

It is possible to have the highest admiration for an individual, whilst not necessarily agreeing with all that individual says or does. Similarly with institutions and Governments—and particularly with our own Colonial Government. Since June last we have had numerous examples of what British administration and justice stands for. Firmness there has been in dealing with an uncalmed sea and very trying consideration—but with it has gone

consider that some may have thought err on the side of excess. Surely all this consideration should like bread thrown on the waters, return after many days. Government is often described as benevolent. We should prefer to describe it as fatherly, and we think the mass of our thinking Chinese friends will agree. Its object is to rule with firmness and justice, in this way exacting a tribute of loyalty. The Chinese must realise that no representation or petition made by them on any urgent question, is ever lightly set aside. They are represented in the Legislative Council by able men of affairs who are listened to with respect. Business men in particular we should imagine realise this. The question of the Trade Loan was not a matter of weary negotiation and discussion. Almost as soon as it was mooted, it was arranged. The latest piece of consideration is designed to help a class which has played a big part in the prosperity and progress of the Colony—property owners. A remission of rates on unoccupied premises is not to be despised—more so when the custom operating in Chinese property is taken into account. The Government might easily have refused to ease the burden; but it realises that the old method of allowance for "empties" presses hardly on quite a number, and has taken steps to redress the hardship. Such acts of consideration as this need to be emphasised.

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They are, of course, but evidence of that spirit of fair-play which characterises British administration the world over—and particularly in Hongkong.

RED CROSS CUPS.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

THIS YEAR'S WINNERS.

"Lau Chu-pak" Duty Cup, for the best record of actual Ambulance duty during the year—In awarding this Cup it was found very difficult to decide between the merits of the "Indian" Division and the "Y.M.C.A." Division respectively. After very careful comparison, and a further revision, the Cup was awarded to the "Indian" Division. The "Y.M.C.A." Division is very highly commended. "Holyoak" Attendance Cup, awarded to the Division showing the highest percentage of attendance at any 15 meetings during the year. This Cup is won by the "Railway" Division, with an attendance return of 100 per cent.

MARINE INQUIRY.

DOUBLE STRANDING IN HAINAN STRAITS.

After our report had closed yesterday of the Marine Inquiry into the stranding of the a.s.s. "Hunan" and "Kweiyang" Captain W. G. McKenzie of the first-named ship continued his evidence.

The "Hunan" grounded on February 1. On February 2 the "Kweiyang" anchored two miles away to give assistance. Cargo was jettisoned on February 3 when the water on the starboard was 16 feet and 22 feet on the port. Witness said that the stranding was due to striking a sunken wreck or other submerged object. The bottom appeared to be of sand or gravel.

Mr. O. G. Jones (2nd officer "Hunan") gave corroborative evidence.

Captain D. H. Martin of the "Kweiyang" said that he had been through the Hainan Straits 80 times since returning from War service. He described in detail how his ship ran aground on February 3 in trying to tow the "Hunan" off. Cargo was also jettisoned from his ship.

Mr. A. McDonald (chief officer of the "Kweiyang") also gave evidence and the hearing was adjourned till this morning.

COBHAM'S FLIGHT.

(Reuters' Service.)

Cape Town, Feb. 26.
Alan Cobham has started on his return flight to England.

LAST NIGHT'S BALL.

DISTINGUISHED GATHERING AT CITY HALL.

SOME NOTABLE FEATURES.

Although the celebration by local Scots and their friends of the memory of the patron saint was belated, it was none the less characterised by the traditional hospitality and enthusiasm at the St. Andrew's Ball last night when the proceedings were graced with the presence of H.E. the Governor, Sir Cecil Clementi and Lady Clementi, Major-General C. C. Luard, Vice-Admiral Sir E. Alexander-Sinclair and other distinguished representatives. As had been foreshadowed by the large attendance at the reel practices, the popularity of the Ball was as great as ever.

To the strains of the orchestra of the Hongkong Hotel the many couples danced on the floors of St. George's and St. Andrew's Halls which were fully occupied, the sitting-out accommodation being no less patronised. The execution of the reels, lancers and other special and less specialised dances left nothing to be desired.

The excellently conceived decorations looked charming, than ever with the light effects playing upon them and justified all the care which had been lavished upon them. The prevailing decorative scheme, blue and white, proved most effective. In the body of the hall of the Theatre Royal the scheme of decoration was in blue and white and a well-executed scene of Oban, the Chieftain's home, hung at the back of the stage.

The Chieftain's Speech.

When it came to supper in the Theatre Royal, and the official party was piped down, the chieftain, Dr. G. D. R. Black, addressed the gathering and extended to all in the name of the Society a hearty welcome. It was the first opportunity the Society had had of greeting H.E. the Governor since his welcome return to the Colony. It would, he hoped, be the first of many similar and kindred occasions.

It is a great pleasure to us to entertain our friends of other nationalities on festive occasions of this sort, said the chieftain, and I think it is a good thing for you to be with us at these times. It gives you an opportunity of seeing for yourselves how truly modest we really are. We as Scots, fully realise that all men are equal and there are times when down in the bottom of our hearts we are a little more than equal it is only at a time like this that you have the opportunity of seeing how strenuously we strive to disguise this fact from the world. (Applause and laughter).

After thanking the committees for their hard work in co-operating in the arrangements for the Ball, the Chieftain said that they had met to do honour to the memory of the patron Saint of Scotland.

Much of St. Andrew's life was surrounded by legend but it was known that he was a heroic man who suffered death rather than betray principles which appeared to him as true and the spirit which inspired him was the spirit which had inspired the lives of those whose names adorned the pages of Scottish history.

I believe thoroughly in celebrating these national festivals, or national memorials; if you wish, said the chieftain, to hand down to our children and our children's children our glorious traditions and to keep alive the spirit which has made Scotland what she is, and has given her her place in the Empire and in the world.

In conclusion, the Chieftain again expressed to Their Excellencies and the other guests the great pleasure the Society felt in welcoming them and reminding them that the history of Scotland was now and had been for all time, one with the history of the British Empire.

Hark the pibroch's martial strain.
Ca's the Clan to Lothian Plain,
Scotland has her King again,
Welcome Royal George!

(Applause.)

The haggis was played into the dining hall with all the honours.

Local Insurance Associations notify that during race-days, offices will be open till noon. The Stock Exchange will be closed during the four days.

Mr. A. Brearley, the sub-manager of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, has returned to the Colony and will relieve the present acting sub-manager, Mr. J. Austin, who is going on home leave next month.

"MISS" GOING?

PROBLEM OF HONGKONG WAITRESSES.

NOW LOSING FAVOUR.

[By "Li Chung-yin"]

Although it is partly correct to say that the Chinese waitress in Hongkong is a "product" of the strike—and the trouble is to all intents and purposes not over—it seems that lady attendants are already losing favour.

A few years ago, some enterprising people brought down a number of teashop girls from Canton but the scheme never took shape. After about a month or so of the strike, local restaurants which had lost their staffs obtained permission to employ women and girls instead. It was not long before practically every teahouse, middle-class restaurant, and Chinese cafe had a waitress or two. Really capable girls brought an immense patronage, with the result that there was keen competition for services. Very good wages were paid but with the advent of the more genteel domestics into the business, rates began to cut.

To-day there are about 140 establishments in Hongkong which find work for about 600 waitresses (in addition to the male staffs). Long before China New Year, a rumour went round that the authorities would forbid the employment of waitresses as nearly all the strikers had returned and there was no shortage. Such did not come to pass. Other events followed and it has now been announced that a number of Wanchai teahouses have mutually agreed to save trouble and cut down expense by dispensing with their female employees.

Wages ranged from \$1 to \$8 a day, in addition to tips (nothing found on fairly long hours, but on very light work). It is difficult to say exactly what class of girl has been attracted but the average income would exceed that of professions in which the members have to go through a course of systematic training.

Practically every day of the week sees a skit or two in the vernacular papers. It may be that the Chinese temperament can only look on the waitress askance. Generally speaking, no concession has been made that Oriental women will one day compete with the sterner sex for work.

However, other reasons have led to the thin end of the wedge being inserted at Wanchai. There was a case, if I remember rightly, at which some sordid facts were brought out about a waitress who had left her husband some years ago. It was not her return that the man sought so much, as she openly said that he was ugly. Rather, he may have persisted in his attentions as he knew that his erring spouse was in funds and therefore in a position to buy him off. Ultimately, it seems, rowdies were introduced by both sides, scrap followed and the police were called in. This sort of thing was of no use to the master of the teahouse.

Then again members of the local underworld have attempted to prey on the earnings of waitresses. Threats were sent and the poor girls were induced to join some secret society which would accord her full protection—at a fee. She had done nothing wrong beyond having found lucrative employment. To make her pay rather than lose her situation, the rogues would assemble at her shop at the busiest hour, buy a cup of tea each (thereby spending the smallest amount of money possible) and keep up a barrage of small talk while prospective customers were kept out.

In conclusion, the Chieftain again expressed to Their Excellencies and the other guests the great pleasure the Society felt in welcoming them and reminding them that the history of Scotland was now and had been for all time, one with the history of the British Empire.

Many other similar instances could be chronicled but they are of similar nature. Wanchai has taken the lead but others have not followed suit. One teahouse in Queen's Road Central is still doing an enormous turnover because it has the biggest and prettiest staff of waitresses. There, it is still possible to turn round and say the Chinese equivalent of "Miss," feeling certain that one's request will be answered by a smile. The favourite slang term for tipping (to tremble the hand) is also believed to have originated in that shop.

Notice has been given by the Canton Harbour office that, owing to breakdown of mechanism, the famous Sampachong lighthouse is out of commission. Pending repair, a bell will be sounded at intervals of two minutes during fog or thick weather. The bell, being of small size, mariners are warned to navigate the vicinity with care.

UNIQUE CORONATION

BRILLIANT CEREMONY IN KASHMIR.

GLITTERING CAVALCADE.

(Reuter's Agency.)

Delhi, Feb. 26.

There was a most brilliant and very impressive State procession in the streets of Jammu on the occasion of the Coronation of the Maharajah Hari Singh. Thousands of spectators were enchanted with the magnificent display of colour, in which gold predominated.

Hari Singh was clothed in robes of gold, with a yellow turban, flashing priceless diamonds, and the historic State jewels. The robe of the magnificent elephant was covered with gold trappings of a most costly design and exquisite finish.

Excited crowds constantly cheered His Highness as he passed in the midst of a glittering cavalcade of elephants, cavalry, artillery, and infantry, besides others. Ruling Princes and high officials.

After the priest had placed the sacred mark of Coronation on his forehead Hari Singh seated himself on a golden throne placed over a stone which has been in the same position since the Kashmir dynasty was founded. The throne was mounted on a large marble platform placed on a rich gold crimson carpet, with a canopy of the same material, and supported by golden posts.

The notables then made obeisance, offering gold coins on silk handkerchiefs.

The Maharajah made grants of land, conferred honours, and made proclamation announcing boons and concessions to his subjects.

The costumes of the Ruling Princes present were indescribably magnificent. The Maharajah of Patiala, for example, wore jewels worth about £200,000.

AIR SERVICE.

PLEAS FOR A SEPARATE MINISTRY.

(British Wireless Service.)

Rugby, Feb. 26.

Before last night's debate on the air estimates began, the Prime Minister, in answer to Mr. J. Ramsay MacDonald, said that, in accordance with the policy of successive administrations, the Government had no intention of re-opening the question of maintaining a separate air arm and air ministry. The Government decided to pursue the organisation of imperial defence on the existing basis of three co-equal services viz., Navy, Army, and Air Force.

Mr. Baldwin added that they were convinced that the way to secure higher co-operation in defence machinery in the interests of efficiency and economy lay in combined action between all three through the machinery of a committee of all.

In a subsequent debate the question was again raised by speakers on both sides of the house, and the suggestion that the Air Ministry should be merged within a new ministry of defence was advanced. The Air Minister, Sir Samuel Hoare, conveyed to the Cabinet arguments advanced in support of his proposal, and remarked that it was obvious from the debate that there was a growing feeling on all sides that there ought to be much closer co-operation between the three services than existed at present.

He believed that the best line of advance was to ensure that every great question of defence and strategy should first of all be considered by the chiefs of staffs collectively.

Referring to the proposal that there should be an Imperial conference for discussing air questions common to the Empire as a whole, he said he would certainly bring up the question of air policy at the October meeting of the Imperial Conference, and would see that air questions had a prominent place. He denied that the ground personnel of the Air Force was in excess of flying personnel, and stated that the proportion of qualified pilots in flying training was larger than that of any other country, and the Air Force had to its credit twice as many flying hours.

NATIONAL DEBT.

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT PROMISED.

(British Wireless Service.)

Rugby, Feb. 26.

The Committee on national debt and taxation, under the Chairmanship of Lord Colwyn, which was appointed two years ago, completed the taking of evidence in December and is now engaged in drawing up a comprehensive report.

GREEK AIR FORCE.

MASTER OF SEMPHILL TO REORGANISE.

BRITISH ENGINES TO BE USED.

(British Wireless Service.)

Rugby, Feb. 26.

Colonel the Master of Semphill has arrived in Athens to undertake the task. It is stated, of reorganising the Greek air force. He is well known, not only as a pilot but also as an aircraft expert. Recently in extremely bad weather he flew a light aeroplane from London to Dublin and back. He was head of the mission which went to Japan to re-organise and train the naval air service of that country, and for his work he received high Japanese honours.

In the reconstitution of the Greek air force British engines are to be introduced, notably the Napier Lion of 450 horse-power, which is now used extensively in the British air force and with which was equipped the machine flown by Major Franco, the Spanish pilot, on his flight across the Atlantic to South America.

LEAGUE COUNCIL.

BRITISH POLITICAL PARTIES ANXIOUS.

(Reuter's Service.)

London, Feb. 26.

Sir Austen Chamberlain's speech at Birmingham has added anxiety to all the parties at Westminster in view of the forthcoming meeting of the Council of the League at Geneva, symptomatic with which is the question of which notice has been given by the Conservative, Sir William Lane Mitchell, who will ask if it is the Government's policy to support the admission of Poland to the Council.

Meanwhile a letter signed by six Conservative M.P.'s appears in the "Times" expressing the conviction that an addition of new permanent members, except Germany, without more mature consideration than has yet been possible, would be unjustifiable to the signatories; strongly deprecated forcing a hasty decision on this vital issue; and asks the Government, without prejudice, that apart from any action it takes in September, to oppose discussion at the March meeting.

The feeling abroad on the subject is reflected in the fact that the Chinese Government has indicated in various European Capitals that they intend to apply for a permanent seat on the Council if the question of new members, besides Germany, is raised at the March meeting.

While Norway also has officially intimated the view that only the German candidature should then be dealt with Madrid's Foreign Minister, writing to the newspaper "La Nacion," while supporting Germany's candidature, emphasises Spain's intention to pursue the application for a permanent seat, which dates from 1922.

POLAND'S CLAIM.

Warsaw, Feb. 26.

On the occasion of the first reading of the Bill ratifying the Locarno Pact, the Premier, Count Skrzynski, in a speech declared that for Poland the practical interpretation of the spirit of Article IV of the Pact must mean her admission simultaneously with Germany to a permanent seat on the Council.

Germany Worried.

Berlin, Feb. 27.

Count Skrzynski's announcement is sharply criticised by the newspapers. Political circles are of opinion that the matter must now be settled at Geneva in March and cannot be allowed to rest until the September session of the League.

It is asserted in all quarters that Dr. Lüthi and Dr. Stresemann will undoubtedly withdraw Germany's application for admission to the League if the Polish claim are admitted in March.

Question in Commons.

London, Feb. 26.

The Prime Minister will be asked in the House of Commons on Monday: "In view of the growing fear in the country that an attempt may be made at Geneva to effect extensive permanent changes in the League Council, what instructions are being given to the British delegates at the Geneva Assembly?"

Sir Austen Chamberlain is discussing on Monday with the League Parliamentary Committee the proposed increase of permanent seats on the Council.

U.S. TAXES.

PRESIDENT SIGNS NEW BILL.

(Reuter's American Service.)

New York, Feb. 26.

President Coolidge has signed the Tax Reduction Bill cutting next year's taxes by \$375,000,000.

INDUSTRIES FAIR.

BUYERS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

(British Wireless Service.)

Rugby, Feb. 26.

The business done in sections of the British Industries' Fair at London and Birmingham is reported by the "Times" as having been extremely large. The "Times" says that the results generally indicate the decided movement in the direction of improved trade. The outstanding feature has been the number of inquiries and orders placed by representatives of distributing houses overseas and the attendance of visitors has greatly exceeded anticipation.

The journal adds: "There are very few countries that have not been represented by buyers. The visitors have come from the Dominions, all parts of Europe, the United States and South America. Business houses in China and Japan have sent their representatives, as well as firms in Russia, the Philippines and Iceland."

"The result has been the opening of many new avenues for business in different parts of the world. The British Dominions have been prominent in trading operations, and in spite of the tariff duties, British goods have appealed successfully to the representatives of American houses."

DUTCH POLITICS.

LIMBURG UNABLE TO FORM A CABINET.

(Reuter's Service.)

The Hague, Feb. 26.

Contrary to expectations Dr. Limburg has informed the Queen that he is unable to form a non-Parliamentary Cabinet and requested Her Majesty to relieve him of the task.

[A cable of January 22 stated: The Ministerial crisis is still unsolved; Deivisser having failed. The Queen has now asked Dr. Limburg, the ex-Liberal Democratic Deputy and a well-known authority on the subject of international law, to endeavour to form an extra-Parliamentary Cabinet. Dr. Limburg is considering the request.]

STOCKTAKing.

OPENING AT IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

(British Wireless Service.)

Rugby, Feb. 26.

The newspapers anticipate that the October meeting of the Imperial Conference will afford an opportunity for more than usually comprehensive Empire stock-taking. It is stated that one of the many subjects that will come under review will be that of providing means whereby closer consultation between the Imperial and the Dominion Governments on foreign affairs may be secured.

BOXER INDEMNITY.

SUGGESTED USE OF FUNDS.

(Reuter's Service.)

Peking, Feb. 26.

In anticipation of Lord Willingdon's arrival at Peking, a number of prominent Chinese here have organised an association with the object of using part of the British Boxer Indemnity for railway construction, the revenue from which, in turn, to be devoted to educational purposes.

SIR F. LLOYD.

DISTINGUISHED GENERAL'S DEATH.

(British Wireless Service.)

Rugby, Feb. 26.

The death occurred this morning at the age of 73, after a long illness, of General Sir Francis Lloyd. The deceased had a distinguished military career. During the war he commanded the London district, and was afterwards food commissioner for London and home counties.

It is not sufficient that a man simply owes a lot of money. You have got to show that he has got the means to pay.—Judge Moore.

EXONERATED.

VERDICT OF MARINE INQUIRY.

TO-DAY'S FINDING.

Rot. Captain D. H. Martin ("Kweiyang") and Captain W. G. McKenzie ("Hunan") were recalled to give evidence before the Court of Inquiry (at the resumed hearing) this morning into the grounding of these two steamers in the Hainan Straits, on February 1 and 3, respectively.

Lieut.-Com. G. F. Hole, R.N. (Harbour Master), presided. Other members of the Court were Lieut.-Com. L. G. Addison, R.N., D.S.C. (H.M.S. "Despatch"), Captain E. Holmes (s.s. "Telemachus"), Captain P. R. G. Cumming (s.s. "Mausang"), Captain E. Walker (s.s. "Halhong").

Mr. G. S. Hugh Jones (instructed by the Imperial Merchant Service Guild) appeared for Captain W. G. McKenzie of the s.s. "Hunan."

Mr. J. A. Gordon Lennox (instructed by the China Officers' Guild) appeared for Captain W. G. McKenzie of the s.s. "Hunan."

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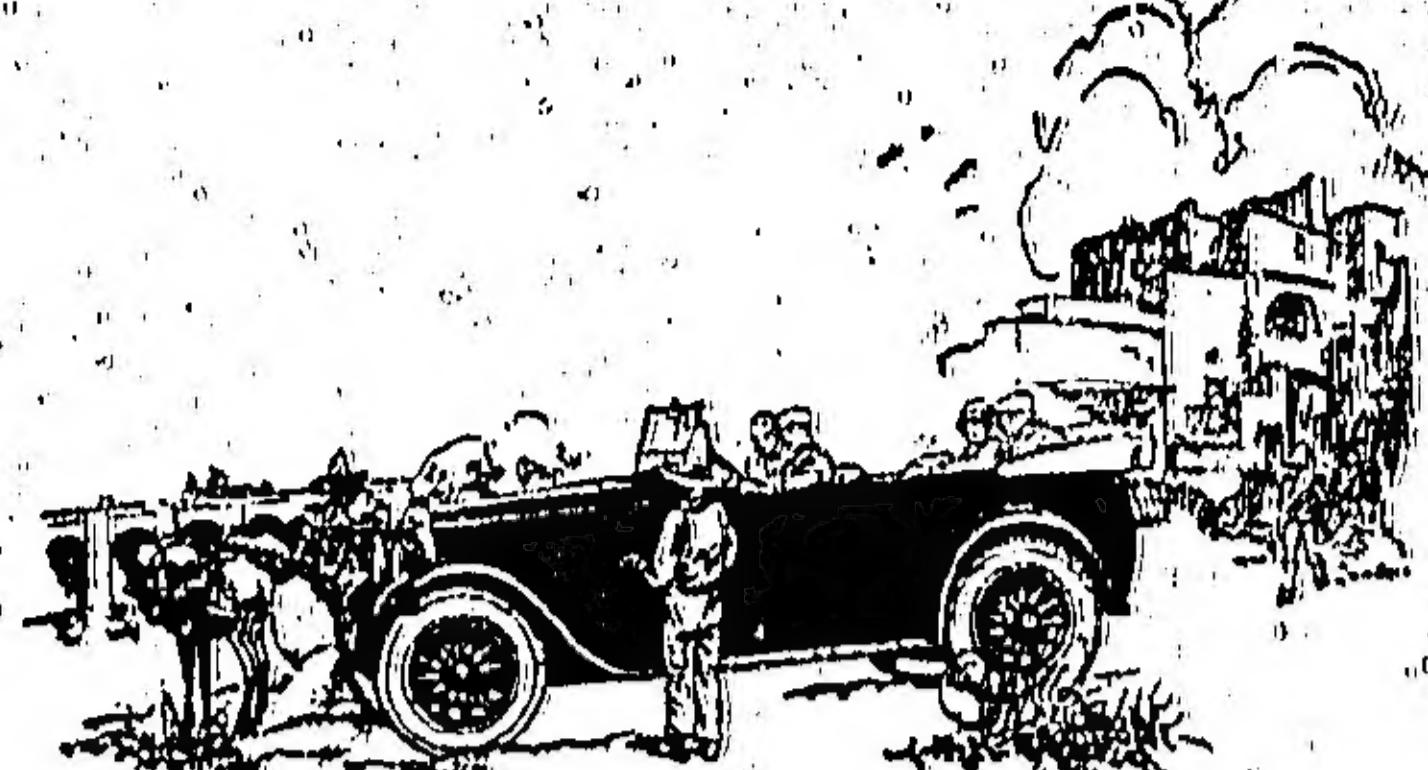
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LOCAL AND GENERAL.



WHEN BETTER AUTOMOBILES ARE BUILT,
BUICK WILL BUILD THEM

Again

Buick
has built
a better
Automobile

SEE IT AT
HONGKONG & KOWLOON TAXICAB CO., LTD.
BUICK SHOW ROOMS.

G. FALCONER & CO. (HONGKONG) LTD.
WATCHMAKERS & JEWELLERS
DIAMOND MERCHANTS
Union Building (Opposite G.P.O.)

Agents for—ADMIRALTY CHARTS.
ROSS'S BINOCULARS and TELESCOPES,
KELVIN'S NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS.
ENGLISH SILVERWARE, direct from Manufacturers,
High Class English Jewellery.

THE RITZ
CATERERS

Meals at all hours from 8 a.m. to 12.00 midnight.
Now serving.....Special \$1.00 Tiffins.
Morning And Afternoon Teas. Good Assortment
of Fancy Cakes.
Wedding and Christening Cakes to Order
Only the best food and wines served.
Telephone:—C. 2336 NOWELL B. WHITE,
Proprietor.

THEATRE ROYAL

HONGKONG A. D. C.'S
GREAT PRODUCTION
"IF"

EVENING PERFORMANCES:

March 2nd, 3rd, 5th & 6th at 9.15 p.m.
Thursday, 4th March, Matinee only at 4.30 p.m.

Booking at ANDERSON'S

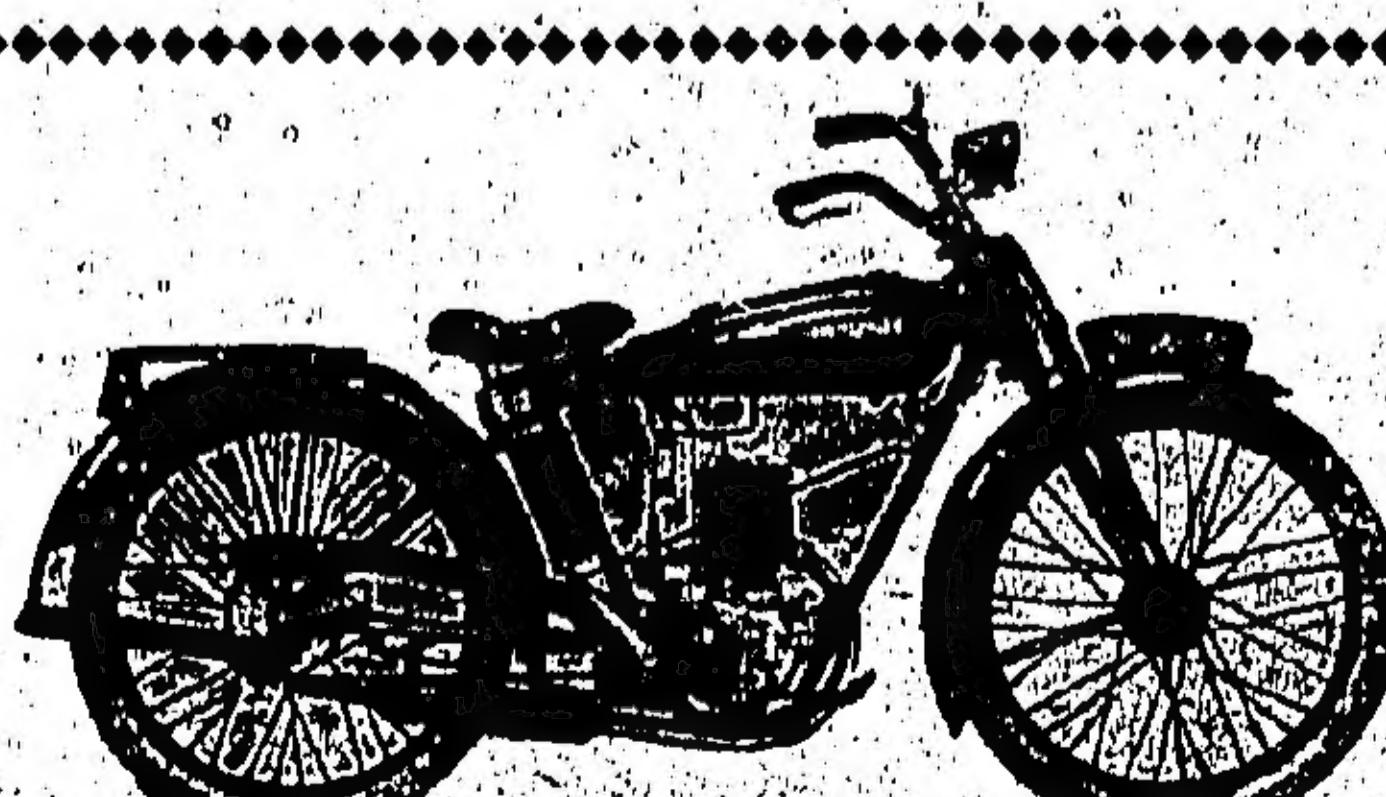
Prices \$3, \$2 and \$1.

CAMPBELL MOORE & CO.

LADIES & GENTLEMEN'S HAIR DRESSERS.

The Oldest Hair Dressing Saloon in the Colony.
Established 1876.

19, Queen's Road Central, 1st floor.



3 H.P. MOTOR CYCLE \$425
2 H.P. MOTOR CYCLE \$290
Sold on Easy Terms

LEYSECO CHINA CO., LTD.
Phone C. 1221.

6 Des Voeux Road C. Bank of Canton Building.

The new buildings of the
Diosesian Boys' School are to be
opened on Monday, March 8.

The concert party of the Blue
Funnel Steamer, "Hector," gave
an entertainment last week in
Shanghai. A collection was made
for the funds of the Sailor's War
Memorial.

Under the heading "An Im-
provement," the "Straits Echo" re-
ports that the mail train from
Kuala Lumpur was only 1 hour
and 7 minutes late in arriving at
Penang on Wednesday morning.

Comparative figures supplied by
the acting Registrar, Imports and
Exports, show that last month the
total imports to British Malaya
were valued at \$87,905,000, an ex-
cess of \$22,568,000 over the im-
ports in January, 1925. The value
of January exports was almost
double that of those for January,
1925, the figures being \$144,094,000
and \$71,439,000 respectively.

Confirming predictions that
Philippine embroidery trade in the
United States would improve after
the Christmas season, the Manila
Bureau of Commerce and Industry
has received not only reports of
advancing prices on this product
and greater demand but also more
inquiries from firms who desire
connections with local exporters
and dealers.

Buttonholes are now being
extensively made of rubber. The
flowers are so life-like that unless
they are closely examined it is
impossible to tell that they are
not real blossoms. The most
popular form is a bunch of
violets guaranteed to stand any
weather, from sun to snow, without
fading. These violets are so
realistic in shape, colour and perfume
that no one, at a casual
glance, could tell they are imitation.
Each violet has a yellow
centre, each curled leaf a faint
network of lines. Roses which
smell as sweet and look as fresh
and as full of colour as though
they were blossoming in a garden
on midsummer's day are another
remarkable rubber product.

The cost of dying is increasing
in Soviet Russia. Owing to
the scarcity of suitable wood and
dyeing materials, coffee have advanced
in price in six months by
25 per cent., while owing to
the congestion in cemeteries the price
of graves has gone up 25 per cent.
Natural flowers are so prohibitive
in cost that Russians have taken to
artificial wax or metal floral de-
signs as tokens to the dead. It is
cheaper for Communists to die
than any other class because they
usually are interred in the plainest
of pine board coffins. Not only
does the state defray the cost of
their burial, but usually they get
free graves.

Shareholders in the China
Light and Power Company are informed
that the final call of \$1 on
shares has been postponed from
March 4 to June 4.

Citizens of Cebu province will hold
their annual fair and exposition
the early part of April in the
provincial capital. Every town in
the province will have industrial
and agricultural exhibits at the
fair. Balls, side shows, parades,
fireworks, a military contest and
band concerts will be special
features. Tourists and others desiring
to visit the fair will find that
Cebu has splendid hotel accommoda-
tions, several garages, a
radio service and many other con-
veniences. It is considered the
"Queen City of the Southern
Islands."

News is just to hand that the
Indian Government has granted
the necessary authority to the
directors of the Great Indian
Peninsula Railway for the carrying
out of an extensive main-line
electrification programme, for
which the whole of the orders for
plant and machinery required are
to be placed in England. It is
estimated that the scheme will involve
the sum of £5,000,000. It is
now in the hands of a firm of consulting
engineers, and involves the
signing of contracts for 1,000 posts to carry
advertisements. The municipal
council made the conditions that
the signs must be "artistic" and
must not be placed on streets that
have special historical or sentimental
associations.

Paris has decided to permit
the lamp posts to be used for
advertising purposes, but will not
let them be disguised. In voting
to authorise the project to sign
contract for 1,000 posts to carry
advertisements, the municipal
council made the conditions that
the signs must be "artistic" and
must not be placed on streets that
have special historical or sentimental
associations.

At the end of last year, state
the Kencho authorities, there
were in Kobe 1,157 foreign com-
pany or firm clerks, including 235
British, 129 Germans, 98 Ameri-
can and the rest mostly Chinese.
The greater part of the local
Chinese workers were barbers
(400), tailors (222) and painters
(125), while there were recorded
54 Russian watch or cloth pedlars.
The last figures showing a remarkable
decrease. The number of
Chinese piece-goods pedlars also
decreased very much, there being
only 11 at the year-end. Among
the foreign residents in Kobe were
3 German doctors, 7 Russian
musicians, 3 dancing masters and
18 showmen (11), etc. The
Kencho recorded 108 foreign resi-
dents "out of employment," in
whom 23 were Russians, 17
Chinese, 14 Americans, 4 Australians,
3 Britishers, and 3 Dutchmen.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Mr. A. K. Linton of the Mercantile
Bank, London, is on a visit to
Singapore.

H. E. Sir Laurence Guilleard
has consented to become Patron
of the Singapore branch of the
Royal Society of St. George.

A re-union dinner of the Hong-
kong University graduates of
Singapore was held last Saturday
at the China Restaurant, 36, Sago
Street.

Sir Charles Elliot, on arrival at
Singapore, told press representa-
tives that he was on a private
mission and had nothing to say for
publication.

Mr. and Mrs. John Taylor, aged
102 and 101, said to be the oldest
married couple in the country,
spent a quiet Christmas at their
home, Hillside, Green Street,
Green, near Farnborough, Kent.

Sigmar Mussolini now holds the
following appointments:—Chief
of the Government, Prime Minister,
Secretary of State, Minister of
the Foreign Office, Minister of
War, Minister of the Navy and
Minister of the Air Service.

For the 17th year in succession
the King sent to Mr. F. N.
Churrling a donation to cover the
cost of one of the teas to 700
hungry men and women given
every Sunday at the Great Assem-
bly Hall, Mile End Road, E.

Mr. H. F. Lawson of the Scottish
Union Insurance Co. has left
Shanghai for home. Mrs. and Miss
Lawson will follow him in the
course of a week or two. Mr.
Lawson has represented his Com-
pany in the Far East for upwards
of 12 years, but has been in failing
health for the last year or two.
Mr. and Mrs. Lawson expect to
reside in England with their son and
daughter.

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce,
Singapore, was recently at
home to Dr. Lim Boon-keng, and
there were present Messrs. Tan
Kah-kee, Lee Kong-chuan, Lim
Chee-chee, Loke Yan-kit, Lim
Chia-heng, Ong Thye-ghee, Lim
Tak-shue, Tan Hock-thiam, and
Lee Wee-nam, who presided
over a lecture on the educational system
of China. The meeting was delivered by Dr.
Boon-keng, and at the close of
the meeting it was decided to raise
a fund to help in establishing a
Department of Medicine in the
University of Amoy.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Burlingham re-
turned to the Colony yesterday
from Manila by the "President
Taft."

The engagement is announced
between Helena Iris, daughter of
the late Governor of Ceylon, Sir
Henry McCallum, and Herbert
Henriker Heaton, Colonial Secre-
tary of Bermuda.

The preachers at St. John's
Cathedral tomorrow will be the
Rev. N. V. Halward (11 a.m.) and
Rev. E. A. Rigden (6 p.m.). All
seats are free when the bell stops
at Matins, and entirely free at
Even-song.

A gigantic statue of Burns, on
the scale of the Statue of Liberty,
at the entrance to New York
Harbour, to stand on the Clyde, is
proposed by Sir Harry Lauder.

Putting forward the idea at the
annual supper of the Kirk
(Argyllshire) Burns Club, he offered
£1,000 towards the project.

In order that every Japanese
may have an idea of what his
Majesty's home looks like from
the inside, films will be taken of
every interesting room in the
palace. Among the pictures will be
those of the Main Entrance, the
Imperial Porch, Homei Hall,
Chigusa Hall, and Phoenix Hall.
Films also will be taken of the
Imperial Ancestral Shrines, as
well as the Fukiage Garden.

The second of two desperate
attempts within a month, the well-
known Cape Town climber, G.
Londt, has managed to reach the
summit of Kilimanjaro, the highest
mountain in Africa.

The first attempt was made in November,

when Mr. Londt only reached a
crater at 15,000 feet, which had
previously been believed to be the
summit. It appears that the fur-
ther 600 feet had never before
been essayed. After spending the
night on the crater, Mr. Londt
discovered a record, written in an
exercise book by two German
climbers, Carl von Salls and
Walter von Ruchteschell, dated
February 13, 1914, which was the
previous highest climb.

Mr. Allan A. Hunter, travelling
secretary of the Fellowship of
Youth, is on his way to Canton from
New York. Mr. Hunter's mission to
China is to interest students in
the higher schools of one country
to correspond with those of another
in order to discuss problems of
mutual interest and to promote
international friendship through
the young peoples of different
nationalities knowing one another
better.

The appearance of the Duke of
York at a residence of Curzon
Street, Mayfair, now makes it one
of the most exclusive in this
neighbourhood to the detriment of
the more famous Kong-chuan Lane. The
duke's landlord, Lord Howe, lives
a few houses away at number 95
and the American Ambassador in
Crescent House, nearby. The Duchess
of York's brother, John Bowes-Lyon,
lives at 36, and 37 is the house of
Sir Patrick Hastings, K.C., former
Minister of the Labour Govern-
ment. Lord Lansdale, Lord Read-
ing, and Lord Beatty also have
houses there.

A lecture on the educational system
of China was delivered by Dr.
Boon-keng, and at the close of
the meeting it was decided to raise
a fund to help in establishing a
Department of Medicine in the
University of Amoy.

Over \$1,800 was realised during
the past quarter by the sale of
waste paper from L.C.C.'s offices,
old metal and obsolete stock.

The total exports of apples
from Canada this season down to
December 17 were 677,288 barrels;
12,065 half-barrels, and 466,549
boxes, as against 712,625 barrels,
1,356 half-barrels, and 441,657
boxes for the same period in 1924.

There has recently been added
to the shelves of the Tokyo
Imperial University library a
number of volumes containing
phototype reproductions of some
of the most important writings of
Emanuel Swedenborg. The books
have been presented by the
Swedenborg Society of London.

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GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LTD.

BEST PORTLAND CEMENT

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.

General Managers

HONGKONG

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN & MORTGAGE
COMPANY, LTD.

Advances made on Landed Property,
Goods, etc.

Trustees of Estates, Executors of
Wills, etc.

Warehousing of Goods of all
Description.

For terms and particulars
Apply at the Head-Office,

"St. George's" Building.

Telephone C. 781.

Telegraphic address, "RELYAT."



Radiant heat in
the home

The Electric Fire is the only one quite
free from dust, dirt, smoke and fumes;
it can be placed anywhere in the room
just where convenient to you and where
the warmth is most effective.

It is ready for use at any time; in your
bedroom in the morning, at breakfast, and
whenever you want bright cheerful heat
quickly.

The Electric Fire springs into cheerful
warmth at a touch of the switch.

Interesting leaflets about Electric Radiators
will be forwarded post free, on request.

ELECTRIC FIRES are CLEAN and HEALTHY.

THE CHINA LIGHT & POWER CO., (1918) LTD.

Show Room, 62 Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Phone. N.J. K. 677.

HONGKONG HOTEL

DERBY DAY

TUESDAY, 2nd MARCH.

CARNIVAL NIGHT

Special Dinner

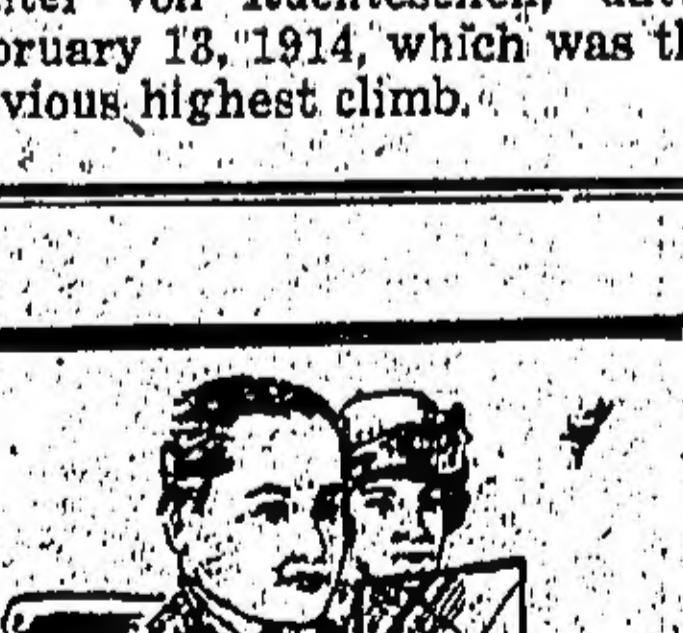
Dansant

(Fancy or Evening Dress Optional)

THE JAZZ ORCHESTRA
WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE

TABLES FOR ABOVE MAY NOW BE BOOKED

THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI HOTELS LTD.



"CHINA MAIL" SPORTS PAGE

FINAL SELECTIONS WITH THE "ASHES."

TIPS FOR RACES ON MONDAY.

COLLECTIVE COMMENT.

[By "Patrol"]

Friday night. Several factors prevent the possibility of giving anything like a tabulated list of selections for Monday's races. The early publishing hour forbids a review of winding-up "gut-jobs" to-morrow (Saturday) morning and on Sunday, but there is still more important bearing.

The Chater string will be sent out on Saturday. Their names may cause decisions to be changed regarding the events, for Derby griffins. Then Mr. B. D. F. Beith with his partner Mr. Lemarchand better known as "Mr. Flash" is due to arrive in time to watch the performances. Mr. Beith owns Local Option and has an interest in Grey Morn. Where other "old" ponies start will be governed by the chances of avoiding opposition with such speedy runners. Of the class which usually provides the most surprises—the subscription griffins—there is also an element of uncertainty. Total Abstinence, on form, is good enough to beat any other sub., from the shortest to the longest distances. Some say that he is not quite off the mark. Those who are sweet on him reply that his first $\frac{1}{2}$ mile (of a $\frac{1}{2}$ miles gallop, in 3 mins., 18 secs.) was done in 1.03 and the first $\frac{3}{4}$ mile in 1.37. In the "outside market" he is rated to be even better than all of the class above him, with the possible exception of three or four.

A number of subs. and griffins are entered in races for old ponies—some with allowances and others without. In view of the foregoing, punters will have to take the various points into consideration. My submissions are based on honest opinion and are made at a time when conditions have to be at best, a rough guess. Should anything material happen in the interval, I will endeavour to do what is necessary in the first edition of Monday.

[For publishing hours, etc. please refer to notice elsewhere in this issue.]

Who's Who.

That bit of the course from the Golf Club to the 5 furlong post was rather soft but elsewhere there seems little cause for complaint. Should there be no rain to-night, the grass track (closed this morning) was to have been open for Saturday.

Of the performers at regular meetings—whether entered at this annual or not—the following are "out" of action, viz.—Dicator Dahlia, Gymp, King of the Plains, Gypsy Love; and Prince Regent and Chicago are unlikely to face the starter.

For the various Jardine stables, Mr. Maitland will be riding such ponies as Local Option, Mr. Pollock will be on Saligia; Mr. Dupree will guide the "rivers" and "grasses"; and Lt.-Com. Thompson will be jockey for the Dyer & Beith string (including Grey Morn and Total Abstinence).

Mr. Moller and Mr. McBain will do duty for Sir Paul; Mr. Haimovitch for Mr. Dynasty, and Mr. Roda; Mr. Sokoloff for Mesaras, Toes & Priestley; Mr. Dallas for the Dunbar interests.

At this moment, the only good thing seems to be in the Garrison Cup (7th race, for subs. of any season, penalties for winners). Presuming that Total Abstinence does not go here, Loch Rannoch ought to win in spite of his 10 lb. penalty. However, there may be better "certainties" when the numbers are actually up.

Anything might win the Wong-nei-chong Stakes (1st race). Mr. Moller has been exercising Sheri Khan II and this sturdy, little one should not be allowed to run loose.

After Total Abstinence the best subs. are thought to be Home Call, Dobbins, the Golden Pheasant, and Beacon Dahlia. If they all start in the Valley Stakes (4th race)—the biggest for this class on the first day—and this is improbable, I should fancy the first two with a preference for the one that had a better jockey.

Some Old Friends.

Previously I stated that Local Option was very fit. I adhere to that view and think that he is better than Saliglia at the moment, notwithstanding the sensational defeat of the 1925 champion in the *King of Troy* (as sent here) outside of these two and Grey Morn, there are Spotted Sand, The Regent, and September. Here I should mention that there are two events for ponies which have raced during the extra season, viz., the Chater Cup (8th race) and the Kalgan Plate (11th race). Should Spotted Sand not come up against one of the big three he ought to

AUSTRALIA'S CRICKET TEAM

KELLEWAY INCLUDED?

Sydney, Feb. 12.

It is reported that C. Kelleway has arranged to go to England with the Australian Test team and will sail on the "Orion" on March 3. The Australians are to spend ten days in London before playing the first match.

Report Confirmed.

Later.

It is confirmed that Kelleway will accompany the Australian cricket team to England.

Sailing Dates.

Melbourne, Feb. 9.

The Australian team of "Test" cricketers go to Tasmania on February 26. They will play at Launceston on February 27, March 1, March 2, and at Hobart on March 4, 5 and 6. They will return to Melbourne on March 7, and entrain for Perth on March 8 after a luncheon by the Victorian Association.

PISTOL MATCH.

Hongkong Police defeated H.M.S. "Ambrose" in a friendly pistol match at the Kennedy Road range yesterday, by 59 points. Scores—Police—Ritchie 143, Wynne 141, Saunders 136, Carey 134, Whant 118, Roberts 113—total 785.

"Ambrose"—Mitchell 187, Stark 135, Neilson 131, Com. J. G. Bower 123, Green 104, Deathridge 96—total 726.



Photo by "Huntsman."

A snapshot of the Fanning hounds, with the Masters and whippers-in, taken at Kwanti, near Fanning, in the New Territories.

HOME RUGGER.

RESULTS AHEAD OF THE MAIL

INTER-HOSPITAL CUP.

(via Colombo.)

Latest rugby union results are:—Inter-hospital cup, second round—Guy's 18, Middlesex 3, at Richmond (Feb. 9); St. Thomas' 22, University College 3, at Richmond (Feb. 12).

Feb. 10.—Bridgend 12, Swansea 12.

LAWN BOWLS.

BRITISH TOUR IN NEW ZEALAND.

THE LAST MATCHES.

(via Colombo.)

The last matches in the tour of the British lawn bowls team resulted—

Wellington (N. Z.)—

Feb. 10.—Wellington 166, Britain 166.

Feb. 11.—Britain 168, suburban clubs 146.

Feb. 12.—Britain 171, combined clubs 127.

Feb. 13.—Britain 184, Wellington Club 143.

As the lawn tennis finals at the United Services Recreation Club, Kowloon, cannot be held to-day, the "at Home" is postponed until a date to be fixed.

SIM SHIELD.

TROPHY PRESENTED TO THE ROYAL NAVY.

The last "hockey" match in the Sim Shield Series at the U.S.R.C. yesterday between the Hongkong Hockey Club and the Army ended in a popular result—three goals each.

Showing superior combination and attacking to better purpose, the Club were three goals up at half-time, through Woodward, Evans and Lamerton.

After the change of ends, the Army showed better form and scored through Lt. Jacob-Larcomb and Capt. Alfree. Play became more even and the Club goal had several narrow escapes. In a breakaway towards the close, Lt. Wright-Neville scored the equaliser for the Army.

The teams were:

Club—P.W.F. Miles, C. H. R. Oxlade, C. L. R. Becker, A. S. Hett, J. J. R. Mitchell (captain), Rev. E. W. L. Martin, H. Owen Hughes, W. Woodward, G. P. Lamerton, J. E. Noronha, B. D. Evans.

Army—Sgt. Clark; Sgt. Phillips, Lt. Smith; Capt. Armstrong, Capt. Alfree, Lt. Webb; Capt. Parkes, Lt. Wright-Neville, Pte. Burgess, Lt. Jacob-Larcomb, Lt. Dickens.

The Sim Shield was received by

Mr. Nicolson, R.N., on behalf of

the Royal Navy, from Mrs. L. G. Bird, who congratulated them on their success.

THE CLAIMS OF HAMMOND.

Hammond's century in the first

Test match in the West Indies will

strengthen his claims to a place in

the England side against Australia.

The young Gloucestershire all-

rounder (primarily he is a bats-

man, but he can bowl, and last sum-

mer he caught and ran out over

70 wickets) is evidently not dis-

turbed by the importance of the

occasion. In the last four seasons

Hammond has scored 4,600 runs,

taken 100 wickets, and caught or

run out over 200 opponents. He is

23.

South China A.A. defeated the Y.M.C.A. at basketball on Thurs-

day evening, by 27 to 20, in the

final of the Hongkong League.

More than 500 persons watched the

branches of the regular forces

and Kowloon Cricket Club.

To-morrow there will be the usual monthly "mixed" tennis

game. Dr. J. H. Gray, of the

National Y.M.C.A. of Shanghai, was

referee.

CRICKET NOTES.

COMMENT ON LOCAL LEAGUE.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

[By Sentinel.]

years, especially the Infantry Company, have in their ranks some of the best players in the Colony and not a few who have proved their worth in interport matches. E. F. Stewart, who did well in the last interport match at Shanghai, has gone to Manila, and but for this the combination would be still stronger. Stewart's figure will be greatly missed as he is good all-round and is booked for even bigger things.

* * *

BATTING AVERAGES.

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Mid. Stephenson (R.N.) 9 182 370 42.11

H. Owen Hughes (R.H.) 5 89* 108 42.00
G. R. Sayer (C.S.) 7 57 244 42.00
E.J. R. Mitchell (E.K.) 5 95* 138 42.00
H. E. Madar (N.) 8 82 160 42.00
Capt. Armstrong (S.) 8 120* 203 38.80
M. B. Kitchell (R.N.) 6 21* 96 38.00
Capt. Morris (R.E.) 7 67 197 32.88

R. W. Hayward (R.H.) 7 90 208 29.71
F. E. Lindell (K.) 5 45* 89 29.68
Lt. Nicholson (N.) 8 81* 110 27.50
D. F. Fritz (C.G.C.) 8 82 160 26.66
W. C. Hung (R.C.C.) 8 59 212 26.50
Pty. Lt. Hussey (N.) 7 48 159 22.73
A. E. Wood (O.S.) 7 45 138 22.68
Gr. Macdonald (R.A.) 4 54 89 22.25
Q.M.S. Strip (S.) 6 49 111 22.20
E. Fincher (C.G.C.) 6 61* 111 22.20
K. R. Macaskill (K.) 6 61* 111 22.00
O. Ismail (L.) 6 54* 131 21.83
F. E. Lawrence (C.S.) 8 52 150 21.42

Capt. Bridgland (R.E.) 5 84* 238 20.50
Capt. Spence (N.) 8 45* 148 20.00
H. S. Gordon (R.H.) 8 48 139 20.00
L. D. McDonald (R.E.) 6 64 205 19.16
Sgt. Blondin (R.E.) 6 64 205 19.16

T. D. E. Pandore (R.H.) 4 43* 98 20.00
S. B. Spillet (S.O.) 4 30* 80 20.00
W. M. Gittens (C.S.) 5 71* 115 23.75

B. C. K. Hawkins (C.S.) 6 48* 140 23.00
T. H. King (P.) 5 77* 104 23.00
A. Lee (K.) 4 44* 104 23.00
Mid. Simms (N.) 8 87 100 25.00
R. G. Robertson (P.) 5 84* 124 24.80
L. E. Bradley (N.) 5 55 120 24.00
A. E. Wahab (L.) 6 61 148 23.88

* * *
The Chinese R.C. did not do so well this season, scoring their first victory over the Indian R.C. 1st XI on Saturday. They had lost six matches and drawn one. Handicapped in both batting and bowling, they still gave a good account of themselves in some of their encounters.

Their main support has been W. C. Hung, who has now scored 200 runs this season. He played consistently in all the matches, his batting record being 48, 49, 59, 14, 3, 8, 7, 29. As a bowler, he has come off best for his Club—17 wickets at a cost of slightly over 17 runs each. I am told by my colleague, W.P.C., that playing for the second team, a few years ago young Hung was much bucked after getting a few runs off an interport bowler. Even at that time his style was such as to predict a great future for him. W.P.C. adds that he all along expected much of him and shall not be surprised to see him in representative cricket before long.

* * *
The Indian R.C. 2nd XI have now completed their league matches. They won three and lost four.

Starting with a bad defeat by the Hongkong C.C., they lost to Kowloon by 10 runs. Wins by a margin of two runs over the Civil Service "A" and 29 runs over the University followed. The Police got the better of them by 110 runs, and three weeks later the Indians beat the Navy by 99 runs. The golden rule applied next when the Gunners came along and kept them down to 53 runs, just a run less than the losers' score in the preceding match.

With the exception of Y. A. Wahab (average 23.83), I. Hassan (19.95) and M. P. Madar (14.85) no others gave much assistance in the way of getting runs.

A. S. Suffield bowled in all the matches, sending down 56 overs at an average of 11.84 for 17 wickets. Y. A. Wahab in 26 overs took nine wickets at an average of 14.55. A. S. Ismail's average for five wickets in 21 overs was

WHITE FELT HATS.

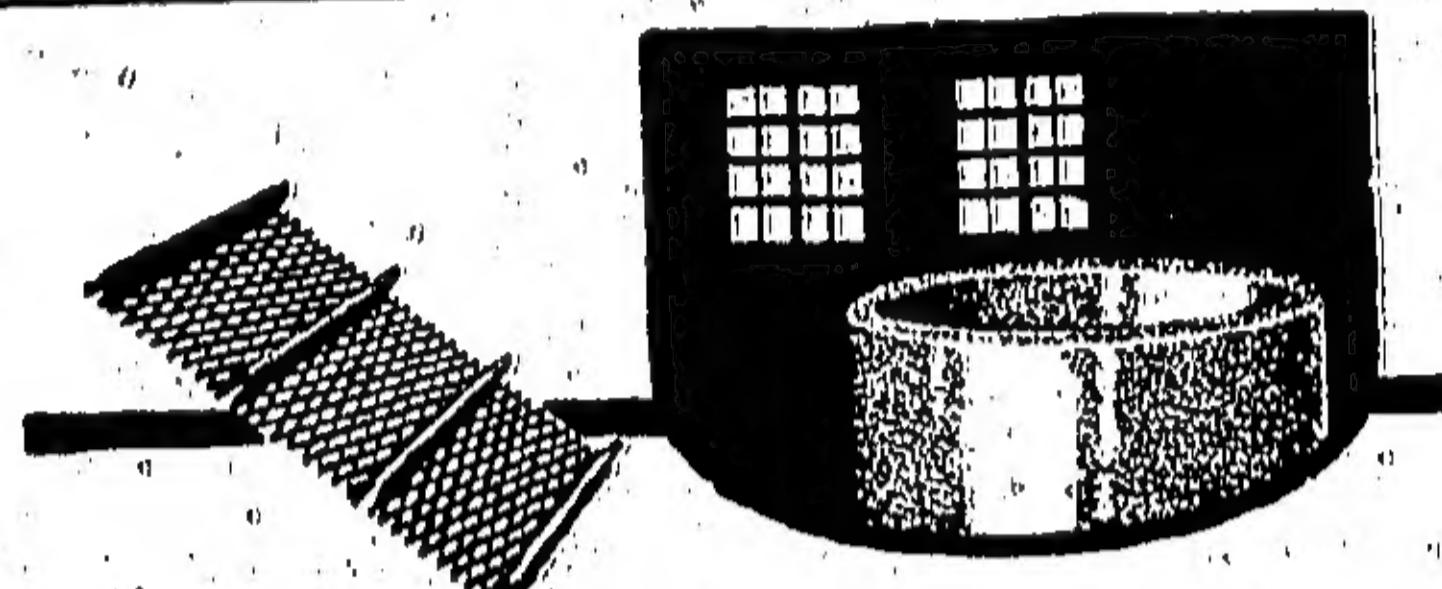
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Information for the 1926 issue

of the

DOLLAR DIRECTORY.



People and Events in the News of the World



BARBARIAN BOB.

Always on the alert for something new, women now are imitating savages of the African jungles. Note the latest in haircuts, the "barbarian bob," which is made to appear wilder by wearing huge earings with it.



LADY CURZON.

A new portrait of Lady Curzon, widow of Lord Curzon of Kedleston.



COOLIDGE FAMILY REUNION.

One of the most recent photographs of the Coolidge family taken on the White House grounds while John Coolidge was home from college for New Year.



W. FRANKE HARLING

W. Franke Harling, an American composer, fled in panic when women tried to kiss him after the premiere of his jazz opera, "The Light from St. Agnes" at Chicago.



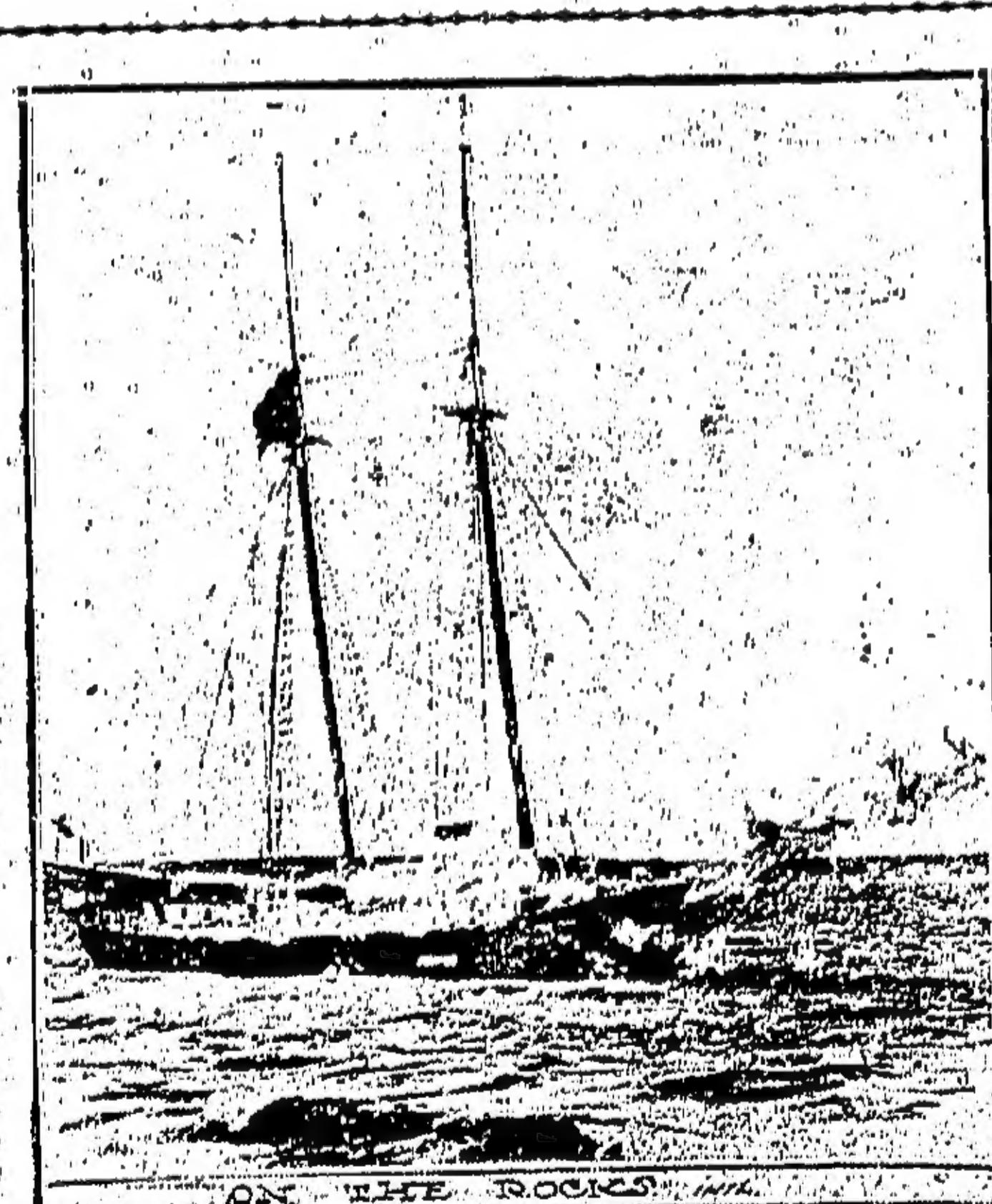
COOLIDGE HEIR ON VISTU.

Mrs. Coolidge looked at her son, John, with admiring eyes as the first family of America posed for photographers at their holiday re-union at the White House.



O. P. VAN SWERINGEN

O. P. Van Sweringen plans to merge five large American railways into one system, making another great trunk line from St. Louis and Chicago to New York. A decision is expected soon.



ON THE ROCKS

The schooner "Mary Langdon" was being pounded to pieces on rocks of East Chop ledge, Martha's Vineyard. It was in trouble and broke loose while being towed to port, heavy waves dashing it on to the ledge.



PAT CROWE.

Pat Crowe, notorious once as a train robber and kidnapper of Eddie Cudahy, has become a vagrant. He was arrested in New York while beggar on the street.



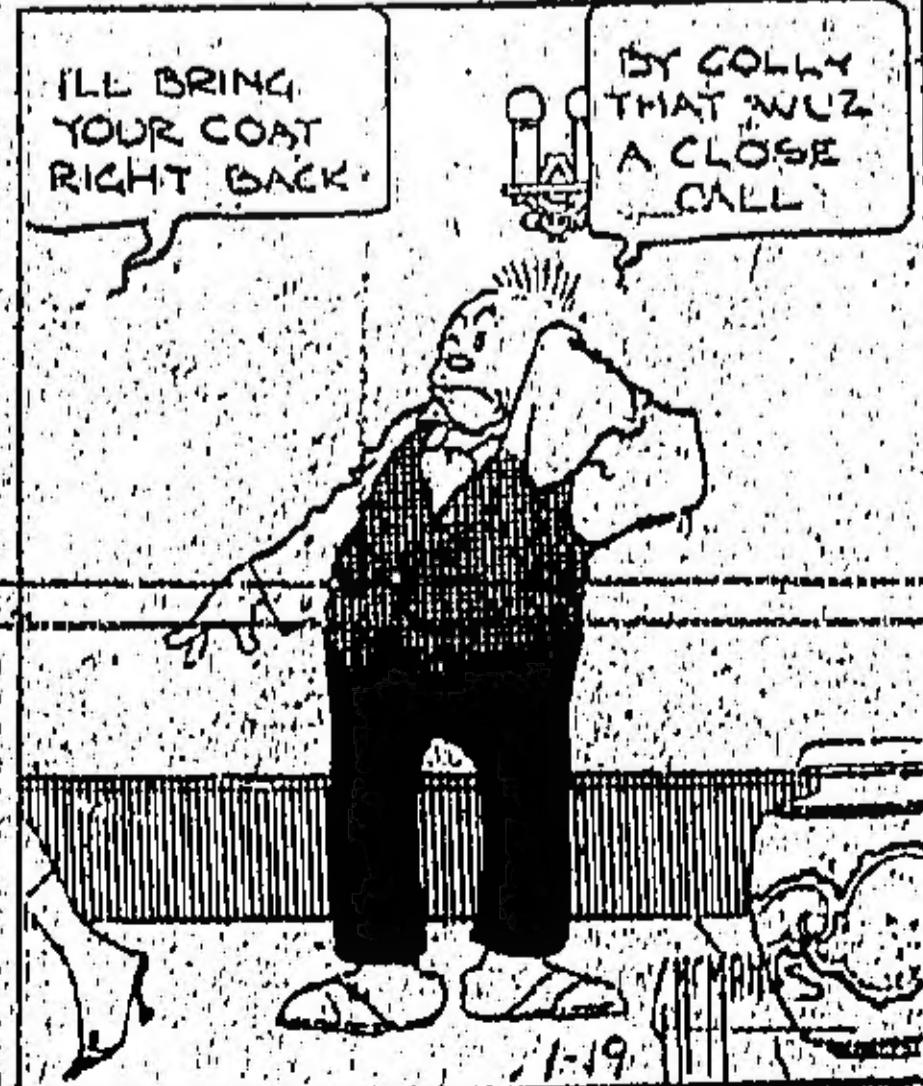
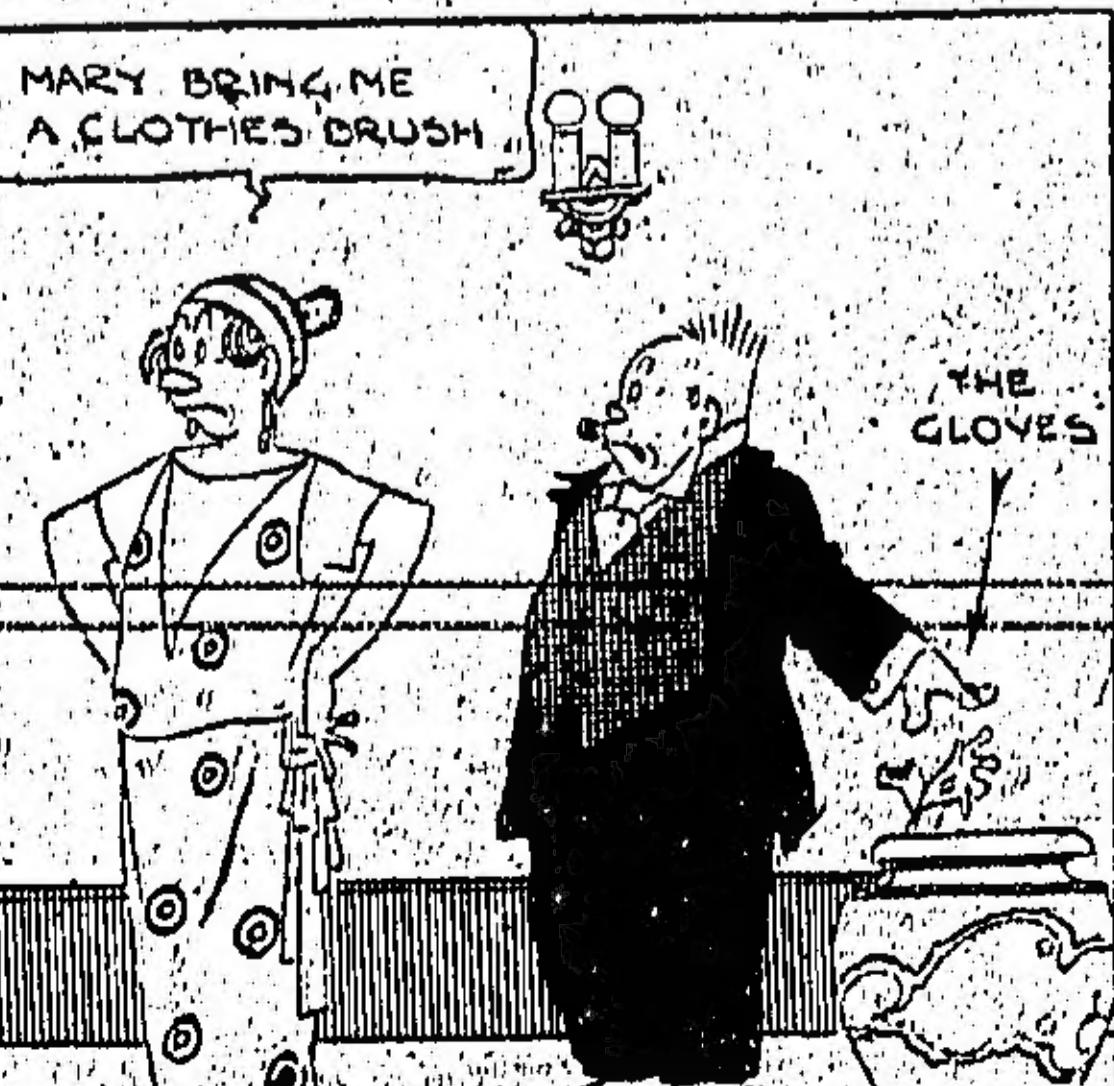
RESCUED FROM FIRE.

Daring nurses, firemen and police rescued eighteen babies and their mothers when flames swept through the Salvation Army Maternity Home, Jersey City. Three young survivors are pictured in the arms of rescuers.

BRINGING UP FATHER.

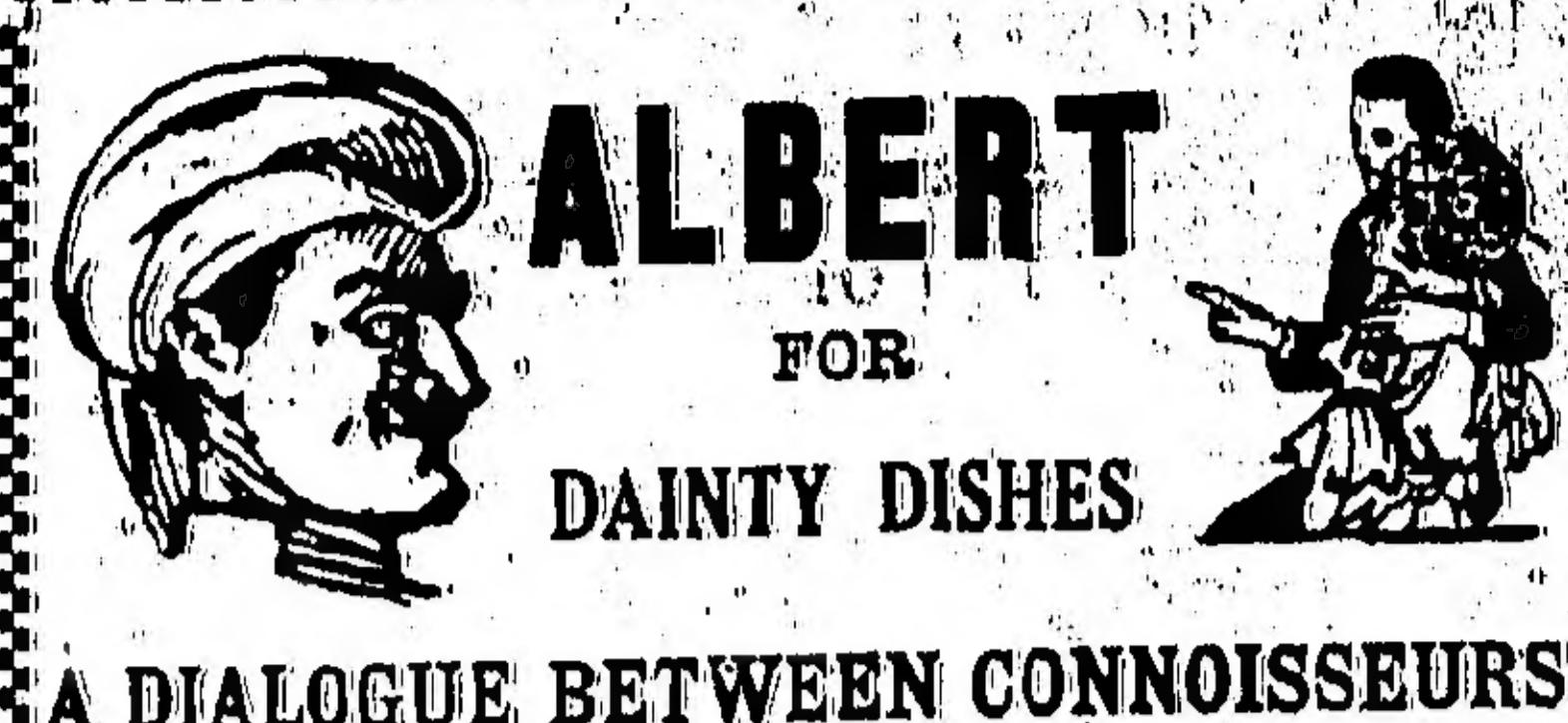


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SUCH IS FAME

"FATHER" JIGGS AND HIS CREATOR

AUTHOR AND SUBJECT

Jiggs is the leading character in the famous George McManus cartoon, "Bringing Up Father," which is so deservedly a favourite with readers of the "China Mail." As you can see from the picture below, George McManus can laugh just as heartily as Jiggs. This picture was snapped by an energetic photographer just after Mr. McManus had delighted an audience at a big charitable benefit with some of his inimitable drawings of Jiggs and Maggie.

What makes Mr. McManus and Jiggs laugh is the statement that every month is a "Laugh Month." Such is the case with them all the year in South America, England, Ireland, Japan, China, and many other countries as well as in America. The brand of humour they dispense is universal.

INSPIRED POEM.

William F. Kirk, the poet, is a warm friend of George McManus, who draws the world famous cartoon "Bringing Up Father." He was present when the cartoonist was drawing some of his characteristic pictures of Jiggs and Maggie. Inspired by the occasion, he dashed off the following, and presented the autographed original to Mr. McManus.

IT IS TO LAUGH.
[By William F. Kirk.]
Loads of chuckles let us carry through the month of January. And wherever we may tarry, let us tarry with a smile!

And we'll move our souls to laughter in the months that come thereafter.

Make them pleasant like the present and decidedly worth while!

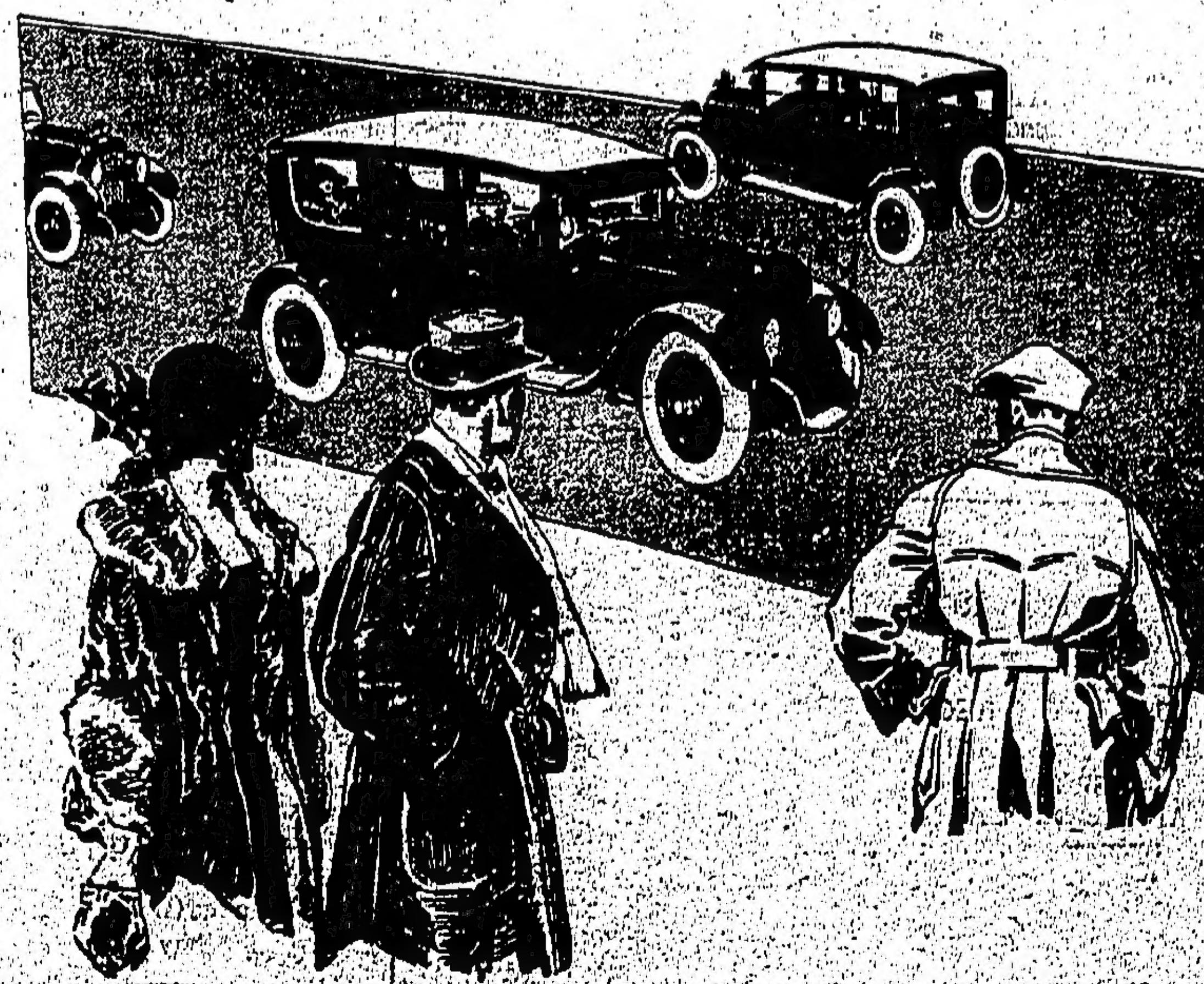
Now the Present's always pleasant, be you plutocrat or peasant. If you follow poor old Jiggs as he has to stand the gaff. For you're sure to keep on grinning, years on end our laughs he's winning.

And to Jiggs our faith we're pinning for a life-long laugh.



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WHOLE WORLD STANDS
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"SAMPEON," 1st April, Singapore, Marseilles & London.
"PHOTESLAUS," 5th May, Singapore, Marseilles & London.
"ANTENOR," 1st June, Singapore, Marseilles & London.
"HECTOR," 14th July, Singapore, Marseilles & London.

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POST OFFICE NOTICE.

NOTICE.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPH SERVICES, which offer speedy and efficient means of communication, now established between HONG-KONG and SHIPS AT SEA, FRENCH INDO-CHINA, the PROVINCE OF YUNNAN, and MACAO.

The RADIO TELEGRAPH OFFICE is always open for the reception and transmission of Radio Telegrams and for reporting vessels passing WAGLAN and GAP ROCK LIGHTHOUSES.

WIRELESS SERVICES with Canton and Swatow suspended until further notice.

Full particulars may be obtained on application to the RADIO COUNTER in the MAIN HALL of the G.P.O. and at the RADIO TELEGRAPH OFFICE, 3rd floor, GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

LIST OF VESSELS EXPECTED TO BE IN WIRELESS COMMUNICATION WITH HONG-KONG TO-DAY.

Taiyo Maru, Tanda, Koho Maru, Derflinger, Shirah, Mingang, Yuengang, President Jefferson, Sanuki Maru, Fausang, Hanoi, Kun-sang, Tjimaneck, Alat Maru, Tamba Maru, Chakang, Havenstein, Albert Sarrant, Iyo Maru, Takwa Maru, Hellas, Yejun Maru, Bintang, Oura Maru, Scotland Maru, Tsuruga Maru.

The mail service to Canton by steamer is resumed to-day the 27th inst. Letter mail will be closed at the G.P.O. at 7.15 a.m. and parcel mail at 5 p.m. daily (excepting Sundays).

INWARD MAIIS.

FROM	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27.	TIME
Japan and Shanghai	Bakone Maru	
Canada, U.S.A., Japan & Shanghai	Empress of Asia	
EUROPE via Negapatam (Papers only)	London	23rd
Jan.	Van Overstraaten	
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28.		
Shanghai	Suyang	
Shanghai	Sinkiang	
MONDAY, MARCH 1.	Taiyo Maru	
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan & Shanghai	Tanda	
TUESDAY, MARCH 2.		
Amy	Talimba	
Hilson	Andra Lebon	
Maria	Empress of Asia	
THURSDAY, MARCH 4.		
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai	Pro. Wilson	
Mar. 4.	Pro. Jefferson	
FRIDAY, MARCH 5.		
Shanghai	Mantua	
MONDAY, MARCH 8.		
U.S.A., Canada, Japan and Shanghai	Pro. Grant	

OUTWARD MAIIS.

FOR	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27.	TIME
Straits, Ceylon, India, Mauritius, E. & S. Africa, Egypt, & EUROPE via MARMARITES, via Marseilles	Hakone Maru	
Mar. Registration 1.45 p.m. Letters		
1.30 p.m.		
Shanghai, Japan, "Canada," U.S.A., & S. America, & "EUROPE" via SAN FRANCISCO—via San Francisco, 7th Mar. and Europe via Siberia (Letters and Postcard is specially addressed "Via Siberia" only) Parcels 1.30 p.m. Letters		
Manila	Pies. Taft	
Hilson	Empress of Asia	3 p.m.
Fort Bayard	Tu Li	4 p.m.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28.		
Ko 10 Maru	9 a.m.	
Kanchow	9 a.m.	
Houan Maru	9 a.m.	
Baliching	9 a.m.	
MONDAY, MARCH 1.		
TUESDAY, MARCH 2.		
Hollow and Haiphong	Mingang	8.30 a.m.
Salon, Ceylon, India, Mauritius, E. & S. Africa, Aden, Egypt, & "EUROPE" via Marseilles, via Marmarites, 1.45 p.m.	Angkor	
Zanzibar 2.30 p.m.		

*Correspondence bearing vessel's name only.

The China Mail

ESTABLISHED
1845

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1926.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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Twenty-five words three insertions
prepaid \$1. Every additional word
four cents for three insertions.

Phone Central 22.

TO LET.

TO LET.—Fully furnished, with Staff of old servants, from about April 8th for six months, "TAIWOO," BARKER ROAD. Five minutes from Barker Road Tram Station. Apply Holyoak, care of Holyoak, Massey & Co., Ltd.

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WANTED.—Well-known firm of British Importers long established in Hongkong and Canton require thoroughly competent Comptredore for Hongkong at once. Satisfactory negotiable security will be required. Reply H.L. General Post Office, Hongkong.

NOTICES.

G. R. R.

NOTICE.

KOWLOON WATERWORKS.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that on and after MONDAY, March 1st, the Supply of Water in Kowloon will be Turned on in the Public Mains during the following hours only:

Shamshui Po and Fuk Tsun Heung and Tai Kok Tsui, Kowloon City and Ma Tau Wei, Yau Ma Tei and Mong Kok District, (West of Coronation and Nathan Roads and North of Austin Road).

Hung Hom and Kowloon City Roads.

7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

From the East side of Coronation Road and including Ho Mu Tin.

South of Gascoigne and Austin Roads.

7 a.m. to 10 a.m. and

3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

HAROLD T. CREASY,
Water Authority,

Public Works Department,
Hongkong, February 26, 1926.

FOR SALE.

PASSEGES FOR DISPOSAL—
at Company's rates, 4 berths
(2 Cabins) to London via Suez
10th March, sailing owing to
illness. Apply Box No. 396, c/o
"China Mail."

FOR SALE—Standard Oil Co.
2 burner oil stove with oven.
Only used two months. Perfect
condition. Will sell very reasonable.
Please inquire Box 391,
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W. S. BAILEY & CO., LTD.,
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New Work and Repairs
Call Flag 111.

Importers & Exporters.

KWONG SUN & CO., 58, Queen's
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(Manager), Kwong King Hin
(Asst.). Tel. Central 8189.

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Agents, Tel. Central 911-1987.
35, Queen's Road Central.

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MADAME FLINT,
31, Queen's Road Central.
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(Latest Parisian models.)

NOTICE.

THE BOY WONDER
EMIL DANENBERG
(8 years old)
will give

3rd ANNUAL PIANO RECITAL
TUESDAY, 9th March,
at 2.45 p.m.

ST. ANDREW'S HALL
(City Hall)
Kindly assisted by Mrs. Balcaen
(Violinist) and Prof. Danenberg
in 2 Piano works.

Under the patronage of
Lady Clementi.

Tickets \$3, \$2 & \$1.
at ANDERSON'S.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Undersigned have received
instructions to sell by Public
Auction

ON
Thursday, the 4th March, 1926
commencing at 2.45 p.m.

at No. 13, Orient Buildings (Top
Floor) Kowloon

A Quantity of
VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD
FURNITURE,
(Particulars from Catalogue)
On view from Wednesday, the
3rd March, 1926

Terms—Cash-on-Delivery
LAMMERT BROS.,
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DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

FOR SALE.

THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT invites offers for a non-propelling pontoon bucket ladder dredger complete with engines, boiler, mooring winches, etc. The vessel was built in 1922 by Messrs. Wm. Simons & Co., Ltd., Renfrew, is 27' long, 25' 6" broad, 5' 3" deep and has a loaded draft of 3'. It is fitted with a sand and shingle screening and washing plant and is capable of dredging to a depth of 10 feet below water level. It is offered for sale complete as it stands at Mumbara (G. I. P. RLY.) Bombay.

The Dredger is capable of being converted into a hopper filling dredger at a small cost.

Offers should be addressed to
the DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT,
Old Custom House Yard,
Fort, Bombay, and should be submitted before 31st March 1926.

Full particulars can be had on application to—

The Executive Engineer,
Mechanical & Materials Division,
Development Department,
Maiuuga (G.I.P.) Railway,
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USE IN COFFEE AND COCOA AND
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MILK WITH TEA AND FOR DRINKING

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Directed by

PHIL ROSEN

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MIRACLE MAN FAME

TO-MORROW

SOULS FOR SALE

EXTRA

China & the World

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1926.

FINANCE IN THE EAST.

SILVER & GOLD MARKETS REVIEWED.

HONGKONG BANK MEETING.

TALE OF CHINA'S INTERNAL STRIFE.

Our Position Vis-a-Vis Canton.

PROSPERITY IN OTHER PARTS OF ORIENT.

Trade conditions the world over, the gold and silver markets, Hongkong's position with regard to the Canton boycott, and the prosperity in other parts of the Far East were reviewed at the 110th ordinary yearly general meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, held at the City Hall to-day.

"Canton is no more entirely independent of Hongkong, than Hongkong is entirely dependent on Canton," said the chairman. "I confidently anticipate a return to more or less prosperous conditions."

Another remark of importance was: ". . . little doubt as to the outcome."

Trade has been hampered in every direction but the Bank shows an increase in the total of assets and liabilities.

A prediction made was that the discount market in London would be more uncertain. There had been an absence of spectacular movements in the price of silver last year.

Great prosperity is reported in Malaya, the Philippines and in Japan.

Those present were:—G. M. Young (Chairman); H. P. White (Deputy Chairman); W. H. Bell; D. G. M. Bernard; A. H. Compton; Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak; Hon. Mr. A. O. Lang; W. L. Patenden; J. A. Plummer; T. G. Weall (directors); A. H. Barlow (chief manager); A. C. Hyne (manager); D. J. Lewis; T. E. Pearce; Ho Kom-tong; Ho Wing; Capt. Thomas Arthur; J. F. Wright; G. E. Towns; H. P. Thomson; Lo Cheung-wan; R. A. Dastur; F. W. Stapleton; C. F. Niclouay; A. H. da Silva; B. A. Hall; C. A. Middleton Smith; A. S. D. Couland; Ho Fook; J. M. McHutcheon; Chan Lim-pak; D. Temperton; J. D. Kinnaird; S. H. Michael; V. Goulbourne; P. S. Cassidy; C. E. Brown; Stewart Smith; Lo Man-hing; Lo Cheung-ji; H. G. Hegarty; E. A. Ram; Mrs. Hegarty; Mrs. Weall; Lee Coon; Sir H. E. Pollock; D. Stevenson; W. C. Van der Steen; S. Stevenson; Hon. H. W. Bird; L. S. Greenhill; N. V. Croucher; J. W. C. Bonnar; F. A. Joseph; Commodore A. J. B. Stirling; S. M. Churn; Mak Kon-li; G. M. Dalgety; C. J. Cooke; C. A. da Roza; J. Walker; D. H. Cooper; K. S. Morrison; Dr. J. M. Sanders; F. R. Marsh; Fung Kong-yuen; A. F. B. Silva Netto; J. M. Alves; H. B. Dowbiggin; F. Austin; A. K. Henderson; E. H. Summers; R. M. Smith; E. A. G. May; L. S. Dodwell; P. K. Kwok; W. E. Van Epps; F. G. Carroll; G. Grimbie; W. A. Eustace; G. B. Layton; H. R. B. Hancock; A. Murdoch; A. Denison; J. Fleming; H. S. Hills; G. Murray (shareholders).

Chairman's Speech.
The chairman said: Gentlemen.—The report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for some days, I shall, as usual, take them as read.

I trust the day will soon come when a successor of mine in the chair will be able, in his opening remarks, to refer to a past year of prosperous trade and peaceful activity throughout China. It is a long time now since such a happy state of affairs could be recorded, and I imagine the year recently ended, will long be remembered as one of the most unsatisfactory and difficult that merchants in China have experienced. Trade has been hampered in every direction, civil wars, strikes and boycotts being the order of the day, all as detrimental to trade and the welfare of the country, as disturbing to the peaceful life of the industrious population.

In the circumstances your directors think it is a matter for congratulation that the earning power of the bank has been so

the provision we have made from the profits of 1925, this account will show an appreciable reduction at the end of 1926.

I would add that our investments stand in our books at well below current market prices. I trust, gentlemen, that the proposed distribution of profits will receive your approval.

In comparing the sterling equivalent of our assets and facilities with those of 1924, it should be noted that the rate of exchange at which the conversions have now been made are approximately 2½ per cent. higher than the previous year.

As mentioned in the report, we closed our Vladivostock office on September 20 last. Our experience of business conditions in Vladivostock has not been encouraging during the seven years we were established there, and, as the prospect of improvement appeared remote, it was considered advisable to close that office.

There has been an absence of spectacular movements in the price of silver during the past year. In fact, the range of 2.3/8d. between the maximum and minimum prices, viz.: 33.7/16d. and 31.1/16d., respectively, has been the narrowest for many years, and one of the smallest on record. In the circumstances, there are no outstanding features of interest to which I can refer in connection with the silver market.

Continental Silver.

Contrary to the expectations of a year ago, beyond moderate purchases of the metal for Germany, totalling about 5,000,000 fine ounces, there was no continental demand for coinage purposes, and at present no signs of support coming from that quarter are apparent.

On the other hand, towards the end of the year, the Spanish Government sold by tender about 1,000,000 ounces of silver, resulting from the melting down of old coins.

This in itself is not a very important factor, but, in view of the large stock of silver held by the Spanish treasury, there is a possibility of sales from that quarter being on a scale sufficient to influence the price. It seems hardly likely, however, that large quantities of the metal will be disposed of at present, and in any case sales would probably be gradual to avoid unduly disturbing the market.

The total production of silver throughout the world last year is estimated at 258 million standard ounces, 62 million standard ounces being shipped from Europe, Australia and America, to China, and 109 million standard ounces to India, included in the latter figure, are 6,000,000 standard ounces re-shipped from India to China, bringing the latter country's imports of silver in 1925 to an estimated total of 68 million standard ounces, as compared with approximately 61½ million standard ounces in the previous year.

It is estimated that gold to the amount of \$400 million was imported into India in 1925 as compared with \$26½ million in 1924.

Prosperity in the Straits Settlements and Java.

Java has led to a moderate but steady demand for gold in the form of both sovereigns and bars, and as far as we can estimate, imports by these countries from London, South Africa, and America amounted to £2,000,000, in addition to £2,500,000 re-exported from London to Holland on Java account.

Home Cloud of Depression.

The hopes with which the year opened at Home have given way to exaggerated pessimism as it was realised that neither the return to power of a stable government nor the conclusion of the economic conference of 1925, nor the successful initiation of the Dawes Plan, may be found possible.

At the same time, the heavy amount of re-marketing of the

signing of the Locarno Pact helped to restore business confidence, however, and the year closed with better prospects than at one time seemed likely.

The year 1926 will always be memorable for the return to the gold standard on April 28, when Mr. Winston Churchill, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced that it was the intention of the Government to allow the embargo on gold exports to lapse at the end of 1925, and in the meantime to grant a general licence to the Bank of England for the export of gold.

It is no mean feat for Great Britain, in face of the much more serious financial disorganisation, which prevailed in many countries after the late war, to accomplish the return to gold in a shorter period than was found possible, after the Napoleonic Wars a hundred years ago. The uncertainty in financial circles as to the immediate effect of the return to gold on the monetary position has been dispersed.

There were doubts, too, no doubt better founded, as to the effect on industrial costs, but with the industrial improvement, which began in the autumn, it was recognised that many of these doubts had been exaggerated.

Not that all was plain sailing. The necessary adjustment of British prices to gold prices implied in the return to the gold standard could not fail to be a painful process; but upon the whole it appears to have been achieved with comparatively little disturbance to trade.

Now that the embargo on the export of gold from Great Britain has been removed, and sterling re-established on its pre-war basis, with a free market for gold in London, the London money market is subject to the influence of gold movements, a factor—and a very important one—that has been absent for over ten years. There now comes into force the automatic check to an excessive influx or efflux of gold, viz.: the lowering or raising of the Bank of England rate, as the case may be. We are, therefore, likely to experience a more uncertain discount market in London, than

has been accustomed to during the past few years, as the London money market now comes under the direct influence of the world value of money, whereas during the time the embargo on the export of gold was in force, London was to a great extent independent of outside influence.

The Bank of England rate remained at 4 per cent. throughout the whole of 1924, while during the past year the rate was raised to 5 per cent. in March, lowered to 4½ per cent. in August and 4 per cent. on October 1.

Early in December, chiefly owing to the withdrawal of gold for export, the rate was raised to 6 per cent. Discount rates

at times ruled considerably under Bank rate, but, on the whole, the rate was effective, and towards the end of the year there was no appreciable difference between the market rate of discount for bills and the Bank of England rate of 5 per cent.

Beautiful Harvests.

The prospects for an improvement in the cotton mill industry were fairly good when the year opened, but labour troubles intervened, which led to an entire stoppage of all mills in Shanghai for about four months. The new cotton crop is, however, a very good one and, given peaceful conditions, this industry should quickly recover.

The political events in China of the past year have had a marked influence on the foreign trade of the country, but also in England and elsewhere, where there is no need to

rely on the country for raw materials, the effect has been negligible.

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French trade is active, but the rectification of the financial position—a political rather than an economic problem—is giving rise to increasing anxiety as to the future. German business has been hampered throughout the year by a shortage of floating capital, that of some of the Scandinavian countries by the rapid appreciation of their currencies (with a corresponding fall in the internal price level), and that of the "new" states of Central Europe by a policy of high tariffs.

The conditions which have existed in South China since the middle of June, 1925, are well known to you all.

In this colony we have been, and are passing through a period of stress and trial. Speaking personally, I have little doubt as to the outcome. Our Chinese friends and neighbours are rational people, and sooner or later more reasonable counsels must surely prevail. I am convinced the vast majority would welcome an early termination to the present artificial—it is nothing else—attitude of hostility towards Hongkong. Canton is no more entirely independent of Hongkong, than Hongkong is entirely dependent on Canton.

I think experience will convince the Canton Government that their present policy is economically unsound, and quite detrimental to their own prosperity as to that of this Colony. While, without question, many interests have suffered and hardship has been inflicted on numbers of innocent people, as a result of the present state of affairs, I do not think the Colony has sustained any permanent injury, and, given a turn of the tide, I confidently anticipate a return to more or less prosperous conditions.

I would take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the assistance accorded the community under the Government Trade Loan scheme. I might mention that the Bank has contributed very considerably to the funds raised in London for the purpose.

North China Trade.

A combination of adverse circumstances last year rendered the import trade of North China exceedingly difficult and disappointing. The slight recovery in the movement of goods during the late spring was definitely affected by the unfortunate Nanking road incident last May. A distinct revival of trade was apparent during the months of September and October, but the outbreak of civil war in the North caused a fresh setback. To add to their difficulties, importers of Lancashire cotton piecegoods have had to face steadily increasing competition from Japan.

While the silk trade had a satisfactory year, other export business was on the whole dull, although it was not as much affected as the import trade by political disturbances or boycott. On the other hand, competition has been very keen and profits cut to a minimum.

The prospects for an improvement in the cotton mill industry were fairly good when the year opened, but labour troubles intervened, which led to an entire stoppage of all mills in Shanghai for about four months. The new cotton crop is, however, a very good one and, given peaceful conditions, this industry should quickly recover.

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H.K. BANK MEETING.

(Continued from Front Page.)

The Tuchun System.

In the sphere of domestic politics the year's record, like that of several years past, is one of wars and rumours of wars. The programme of constitutional reforms, which Marshal Tuan took in hand on becoming head of the Government, gave ground for some hopes at the beginning of the year, but these vanished when the first of the national conferences, convened in accordance with his scheme, proved a complete failure. It soon became obvious that the "tuchun system" (to use a popular phrase) was too strong to admit of national reconstruction except by force of arms, and that, so long as the Central Government remained dependent for its military backing on the tuchuns themselves, it could only rule as their controlled agent. The dominant military chiefs, Marshals Chang Tso-lin and Feng Yu-hsiang, had, after the defeat of the Chihli party, reverted almost at once to a state of mutual hostility. The country thus slipped back into the vicious circle of inter-party struggle, from which no escape seems possible, while each successful party persists in exploiting its power solely for its own advantage, and in treating the provinces as spoils of war to be divided among its supporters and to serve as little else than a means of support for their ever-increasing troops.

Another year of military misrule in the provinces has had the inevitable effect of further disorganising the economic machinery of the country. This especially applies to the railways and the salt administration. In the case of several of the former, continued misuse of the lines and the appropriations of revenue have proved the last straw, and at the end of the year three of the international railway loans had fallen into default. Depreciation of rolling-stock, through reckless and ignorant usage, is also becoming a very serious matter. In the case of the salt, the seizure of revenue by provincial governors and forcible interference by local military authorities have reached a point where they no longer merely reduce the foreign bondholders' security, but seriously threaten the organisation so carefully built up with foreign assistance since 1912.

Motor Traffic Advanced.

On the credit side there is pain-fully little to set, but mention should be made of the development work carried out by Feng Yu-hsiang in the North-West frontier districts, including the roadbed for the projected prolongation of the Suiyuan line to Ninghsia. Actual railway construction has been limited to work in the Lunghai railway and certain extensions of the Manchurian system, but the building of roads for motor traffic has advanced considerably in various parts of the country. The Customs administration has, as in the past, remained happily immune from the effects of civil disturbance, except to the extent of a large diminution of revenue during the summer months from the check to trade caused by political strikes and boycotts.

I must now turn to the anti-foreign movement which has been so momentous a feature of 1925. It is unnecessary to refer to the events leading to the outbreak of June. I should like, however, to remark in this connection that the charges of exploitation of Chinese labour by foreign employers are thoroughly dealt with in the papers published by H.M. Government showing that foreign-controlled factories compare well with Chinese, and that both our own authorities and the municipal government of the Shanghai international settlement had been keenly concerned for some time past with practical steps for improving labour conditions.

In its early phases the movement threatened the safety of foreign lives and property at various points in China. From an agitation set on foot by students, it rapidly developed into riots in foreign concessions, organised strikes, and boycotts, attacks on foreign institutions, hostile mob demonstrations and virulent press abuse combined with a strong propaganda in favour of the abolition of the so-called unequal treaties. The British were the chief object of attack, owing, no doubt, to our leading position in Shanghai where

the trouble had taken its start, and to Great Britain's historical connection with the origin of foreign privilege in China. On the part of the officials very little was done in most places to hold the extremists in check, and the agitation was left in the main to run its own course. The economic effects of the movement were felt most acutely at Shanghai and the South China ports.

Foreign Powers' Sympathy.

The events of the summer have proved the growing political power of the national movement in China. In spite of the lamentable record of the last few months, one cannot but feel that this movement, if the patriotism which its supporters profess is genuine, should have in it the seeds of what the country urgently needs, namely, an organised public opinion among the educated classes, which would break the back of the present system of militarism.

For the moment the excitement engendered by the unfortunate "Shanghai affair," and the instigation of Bolshevik agents, backed by Bolshevik money, have shaped the movement into a blind crusade against the foreigner and foreign rights in China. It is reasonable, however, to hope that a sober view of the facts will in time prevail.

The partisans of the movement have now tangible proof that their legitimate aspirations for bettering the international status of their country have the sympathy of the foreign Powers, and that the latter are ready to take practical steps in this direction, so far as conditions admit. It cannot, then, be be obvious that the real obstacle lies in the internal state of China, which at present fails to provide the most ordinary guarantees of order, justice and safety of person and property. Realising this, may they find the courage to attack the root of the evil and attempt to rid China of the military despotism which is blocking all progress and steadily ruining the country.

Of the Tariff Conference, which assembled in Peking at the end of last October, it is yet too early to say very much.

Tariff Questions.

The delay of three years in the final ratifications of the Washington Treaties has resulted in the conference being held at a time, and in conditions, particularly unfavourable for international negotiations requiring calm and reasonable discussion. The Conference nevertheless has succeeded in making some headway. The Powers gave early proof of their readiness to deal with the tariff question on a fresh and broad basis, the Chinese claim to be released from the conventional flat rate tariff, and to be free to determine their own rates of duty, being received with sympathy and taken as the groundwork of discussion. It can only be hoped that the Chinese representatives will respond to the liberal spirit shown by the Treaty Powers, by enabling the negotiations to proceed on fair and reasonable lines, with equal regard to the rights and interests of both parties, and by making a genuine effort to lay the foundation of an improved fiscal and financial system in China.

Tariff autonomy—that is, freedom in fixing tariffs—has already been in principle conceded after the lapse of three years, during which period the Chinese Government is to effect the abolition of kuan. The questions before the Conference are, therefore, the measures for abolishing kuan, the levy of temporary surtaxes to provide additional revenue during the interim period, and the disposal under adequate safeguards of that additional revenue.

In the present state of the country, the practicability of making effective and lasting arrangements with the de facto rulers of provinces for the abolition of kuan and other obstructive taxation, must be regarded as doubtful; one can only hope that the offer of compensation from the new Customs revenue will supply the necessary inducement. As regards the disposal of surtaxes of 10 per cent. to the State on their salaries, it is largely owing to their loyal support, and hard work at the head office and all branches that our chief manager has been able to carry out his policy, which during a period of unprecedented difficulties, especially in the Far East, has enabled us to put before you such fine results for the year 1925.

To our chief manager we owe a debt of thanks for steadily maintaining the Bank's high position in the financial and business world. (Applause.)

China's Vanishing Credit.

One of the purposes put forward at the Conference is the adjustment of the unsound obligations of the Chinese Government. I have mentioned the alarming increase in the number of China's foreign loans which are falling into default. There is, besides, a very long list of debts due by the Government to foreign purveyors of railway and other material. It goes without saying that China can only retrieve her fast-vanishing credit, and regain the reparation for financial integrity, which has been hers in the past, if she takes her debts in hand, and comes from the neglect of her foreign obligations, which has marked the last few years.

While China has always been our most important field of operations, we have, of course, very extensive and profitable business interests throughout the East, and, in contrast to China, I am able to paint brighter pictures of the other places where the Bank is established.

Rubber and Tin Prosperity.

The Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, after some years of depression, are enjoying great prosperity; the two chief industries, rubber and tin, are both in a very flourishing condition. The price of rubber, after ruling for a long time at the bare cost of production, has advanced rapidly, owing to the large consumptive demand and absorption of stocks. Producing-companies are in the happy position of being able to dispose of their output for some years ahead on terms, which show a handsome profit. I imagine that most of them are taking advantage of the position to, at any rate, cover their working costs for the next few years, and so to speak stand on velvet.

India has had a series of good seasons, but her surplus products, instead of being exchanged for productive goods, continue to be expended on gold, which, being hoarded, does not add to the purchasing power of the people. In this respect, therefore, the prosperity of India is more superficial than real. The substantial interests of the country must for a long time to come be sought in the orderly development of her enormous agricultural resources, and any artificial attempt to force the pace industrially is to be deprecated.

The textile industry in Bombay is no doubt passing through a severe crisis, but the step taken to remove the excise duty—however necessary on political grounds—must be regarded as of doubtful wisdom from an economic point of view.

Japan appears to be gradually emerging from the disastrous effects of the great earthquake of 1923. The balance of trade has been moving more in the country's favour of late, and this is reflected in the improvement in Japanese exchange, which has appreciated from the low point of 1/7.3/16, touched last year, to the present level of 1/10, and it seems safe to predict a sure, if gradual, return of Japanese currency to gold points.

Japan May Borrow.

Further borrowings abroad are probable in the near future, for the purpose of the reconstruction of the City of Tokyo, and there is no doubt any offerings on the London Market will receive a favourable reception.

Reports from the Philippines indicate that the islands enjoyed a prosperous year in 1925. The large sugar crop was sold at remunerative prices, while hemp, tobacco, copra and other staples were profitably marketed. The prosperity arising from the success of the export trade of the country induced a corresponding increase in the demand for imports.

Trade conditions in the Islands may be said to be good and the prospects for 1926 promising.

Before concluding, I desire your approval of the action of the directors in voting a well-deserved bonus of 10 per cent. to the Staff on their salaries. It is largely owing to their loyal support, and hard work at the head office and all branches that our chief manager has been able to carry out his policy, which during a period of unprecedented difficulties, especially in the Far East, has enabled us to put before you such fine results for the year 1925.

To our chief manager we owe a

debt of thanks for steadily maintaining the Bank's high position in the financial and business world. (Applause.)

I now beg to propose the adoption of the report and statement of accounts. After the proposal has been seconded and before placing the motion before the meeting, I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability any questions which shareholders may have to ask.

Seconder's Address.

On rising to second, Mr. D. J. Lewis said:—Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen.—We have already observed from the telegrams which have appeared in the local press of the deep interest taken by financial circles in London in the preliminary announcement which was made by our directors before the balance sheet itself was published and I venture to think that our chairman's speech to-day will evoke greater world-wide interest than ever before in the history of the corporation.

For many years past it has unfortunately been necessary for the time being to refer to the political unrest, to the wars and rumours of war in China, and to the exploitation of the provinces by successive warlords. The past year has probably been the worst within the experience of any of us here present. All the usual troubles prevail and in addition the outbreak of anti-foreign and particularly anti-British feeling has added to our difficulties.

It may be as our chairman has stated, that this outburst is partly due to a growing spirit of nationalism amongst certain sections of the Chinese nation, but it is most certainly largely fostered by Bolshevik emissaries who can only attain their own ends through others' misfortunes.

It has often been stated that a nation has the Government which it deserves. This is certainly not the case in China. We know that the bulk of the Chinese people are cultured, industrious, and peace-loving, but the various Governments foisted upon them are self-elected, and self-imposed, totally self-interested and in no way representative of the people whom they oppress, whilst professing to govern.

Spirit of Nationalism.

It is to be hoped that this growing spirit of nationalism will soon cease to vent itself in antagonism to foreigners who like ourselves are well disposed towards China, but will be devoted to establishing a really representative stable and honest Chinese Government.

With regard to our own local conditions, we fully agree with the chairman's remark that Canton is no more entirely independent of Hongkong than Hongkong is entirely dependent on Canton, and if the hot heads in Canton think that they can ruin Hongkong they will soon find that they are badly mistaken.

The idea of converting either Canton or Whampoa into a deep sea port and thereby depriving Hongkong of its natural importance is no new one, and in this connection I might remind you of the views of the Hon. Mr. A. O. Lang expressed at the annual meeting in 1923 when he said "no development of trade facilities at Canton can in the long run be detrimental to this Colony, and our Chinese friends can be assured that British policy in this matter is bounded by no such narrow outlook as that attributed to it."

It goes without saying that considerable loss has been inflicted on the Colony by the boycott, which has flagrantly violated all treaty rights, but the greatest injury has been done to Chinese themselves. I am confident that the good sense of the bulk of the Chinese people will in due time prevail and that normal friendly relations between Hongkong and Canton will be restored.

The set back at present suffered will then speedily be made good and prosperity will return to this Colony which has unquestionably a great future before it.

Eminently Satisfactory.

In view of the fact that the Corporation's most important field of operations is China, and bearing in mind the abnormally troublous year through which we have passed, I think you will agree with me that the balance sheet placed before us is eminently satisfactory, and that our heartiest congratulations on the splendid year's working are due to the directors, the chief manager and his staff.

The stability of the Bank should give pause to those who think that they can ruin British commerce and

BOLSHEVIE PLANS.

"HOPE" OF OUTBREAK IN BALKANS.

FAILURES ELSEWHERE.

(Reuter's Service.)

Riga, Feb. 26.

The Bolsheviks are apparently in no way discouraged by the failure of their attempts to provoke revolutions in Germany, Bulgaria, and Estonia, according to Mr. Zinovieff.

In addressing the sixth Congress of the Communist International at Moscow, he said that although the situation in the Balkans was apparently stabilised, he still hopefully regarded them as a source of pregnant and sudden happenings, which might be fatal to capitalism. Europe held first place in the International's plans for a world revolution, the East second, and America third.

FIRE ON A SHIP.

STEAMER "BOETON" ARRIVES AT AMSTERDAM.

(Reuter's Service.)

Amsterdam, Feb. 26.

The steamer "Boeton" has arrived here. The fire has been definitely extinguished. The extent of the damage to the cargo has not yet been ascertained. The vessel does not appear to be badly damaged.

TENNIS.

TILDEN AND RICHARDS WIN.

(Reuter's American Service.)

New York, Feb. 26.

In the doubles indoor tournament Tilden and Richards defeated Lacoste and Brugnon by 4-6; 6-2; 8-10; 4-4; 7-5.

the fortunes of this Colony, and give heart to all of us who whatever troubles may be in front of us are prepared and determined to face them.

We are so close to the events happening around us that we are somewhat apt to be obsessed by them.

It is therefore very pleasing to learn from our chairman of the substantial prosperity now being enjoyed in the Straits Settlements after a period of great depression; that our Japanese friends are recovering from the disastrous effects of the earthquake, and that the Philippine islands are enjoying increased prosperity. I think it is not too much to hope that one day Hongkong will again be enjoying its fair share of good fortune.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are all very proud of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Incorporated here some sixty years ago by the foresight of our predecessors, built up under the wise guidance of its directors, by the genius of successive chief managers, the bank has grown to its present commanding position.

But the wisdom and foresight of those who have guided its fortunes could not have led it to the position that it holds to-day had it not been for the whole-hearted service of an able, loyal and devoted staff. We owe a great deal to the present staff and I am sure you will fully concur in all that the chairman has said of them and will heartily vote them the suggested bonus which they so well deserve.

Mr. Chairman, I now beg to second the adoption of the report and accounts which have been placed before us.

Other Business.

The confirmation of the appointment of Mr. D. G. M. Bernard as director and the re-election of the Hon. Mr. P. H. Holycross, Mr. G. M. Young and Mr. T. C. McLean was proposed by Mr. J. E. Pearce, seconded by Mr. Ho Koon-tong and carried.

The election of Mr. C. Bernard Brown and Mr. J. Fleming as auditors was proposed by Capt. Thomas Arthur, seconded by Mr. J. F. Wright, and carried.

This concluded the business of the meeting.